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PAGES 14-15

TROUBLE BREWING

Craft Beer Market's plan to triple the size of its patio has raised ire among some Olympic Village residents who want to enjoy a quieter neighbourhood. Story, page 3. EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Second-most unaffordable city on earth

Real estate. Annual survey blames severe land-use restrictions for high housing prices

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Vancouver has the second-least-affordable housing market in the world, according to a new report.

The 11th annual Demographia International Housing Affordability Survey, released Tuesday, found Vancouver trails only Hong Kong for the dubious distinction of least-affordable city.

The two cities are followed by Sydney, San Francisco and San Jose in the rankings.

Researchers were quick to pick up on a common thread between the top five.

"Without exception, these markets have severe land-use restrictions that have been associated with higher land prices and, in consequence, higher house prices."

The survey uses the "median multiple" — median house price divided by the gross annual median household income — to assess housing affordability, a measure recommended by the World Bank and the United Nations.

Hong Kong has been the least-affordable housing market in the past five Demographia surveys, scoring a record-high median multiple of 17.

Vancouver scored a median multiple of 10.6. The report notes "housing affordability has been steadily worsening" here.

Mayor Gregor Robertson wasn't surprised by the rankings.

"I don't think it's news to anyone living here in Vancouver," he said. "Affordability is a huge challenge for us."

Robertson said affordable housing is currently the city's top priority after "decades of neglect" at the federal level.

"It's going to take us years to start to move the needle and improve affordability as a city and across the region," he said.

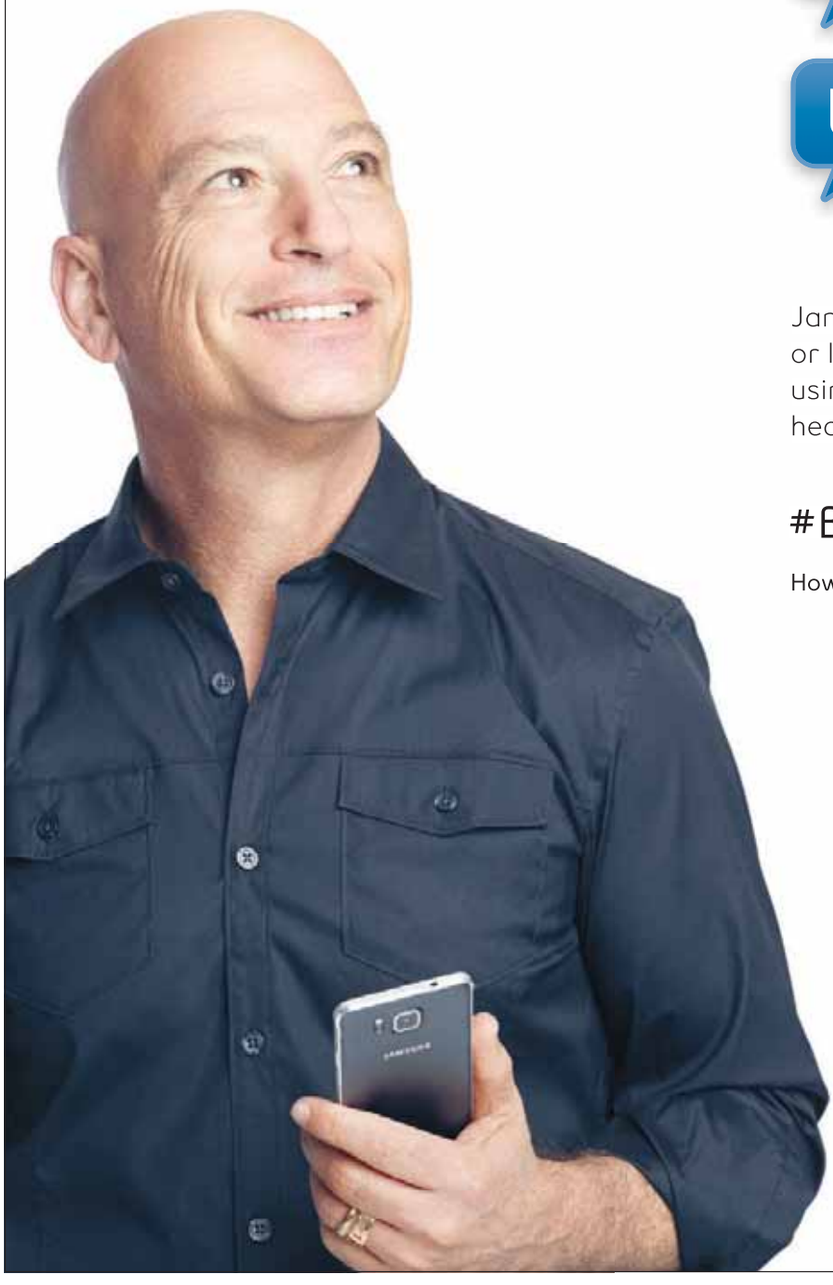
While Vancouver's current affordability crisis may not be news to the mayor, Demographia put the issue squarely into context within its report.

Vancouver's median-multiple score has doubled since the first Demographia survey 11 years ago, the authors wrote.

According to the survey, British Columbia has four of the five least-affordable metropolitan markets in Canada.

Victoria is the second-least affordable, followed by Toronto, Kelowna and the Fraser Valley.

WITH FILES FROM EMILY JACKSON



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Craft Beer patio plan irks Olympic Village neighbours

City planning. Those who opposed bar originally are speaking up again

EMILY JACKSON
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A number of Olympic Village residents are hopping mad over Craft Beer Market's plan to nearly triple the size of its patio.

The establishment, which has become wildly popular since it opened in the Salt Building in November 2013, applied for a development permit to expand the number of patrons allowed on its patio to 150 from 50.

The area has the "best views" and is constructed so it won't impact public space.

The operators would close the patio at 10 p.m. "as we believe it is the right thing to do for our great neighbours," Craft's P J L'Heureux wrote in the application.

But the application is brewing trouble among residents who opposed the pub in the first place. In emails to city planning staff, they expressed shock at the "outrageous" plan and how they will have to fight the same battle as when Craft applied to move in less than two years ago.

Quoted

"Frankly we've had no concerns raised as to the extent they're able to operate now."

Penny Ballem, city manager

Residents argued they would not have purchased their condos if Craft were already there because it impedes the quiet enjoyment of their homes. Their strong language directed at city staff earned them a reprimand from city manager Penny Ballem.

"I just wanted to make sure they ease back on the tone of their indignation that Craft was permitted to put in an application," Ballem said Tuesday. "Under the law they have a perfect right to put in an application and our staff are carrying out the due diligence they're required to do."

The legal protocol involves notifying neighbours of the application, which was done Jan. 15, and giving the public until Feb. 4 to comment. Staff will take the responses into account before making a decision, Ballem said.

Ballem would not speculate on the likelihood of the expansion's approval, but noted Craft is very popular and busy.

"Frankly, we've had no concerns raised as to the extent they're able to operate now," Ballem said.

Well, it's about time

Vancouver's Gastown Steam Clock finally returned to its home on Water Street on Tuesday morning after undergoing three months' worth of repairs. The aging landmark, which has been ticking for 37 years, received new tracks, chains, a pendulum and steam pipes, as well as a fresh coat of paint.

THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

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Officials unsure they can end street homelessness by spring

Housing. City 'getting closer' to goal, but not quite there yet

EMILY JACKSON
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New temporary and permanent housing has helped Vancouver get closer to the mayor's goal of ending street homelessness by 2015, but city officials aren't sure they will be able to meet the pledge by the homeless count this spring.

Interim housing at the Quality Inn at the edge of Yaletown, three winter shelters and permanent homes at the remaining B.C. Housing sites will provide 575 units of shelter by mid-March when the annual homeless count takes place, according to a staff presentation to city council on Tuesday. Approximately 240 more units will be available by summer 2015.

That should be enough housing for the 538 people that were counted sleeping on city streets last year, and for some who started a tent camp at Oppenheimer Park last summer.

But city officials aren't yet calling it a win since it's hard to track specific people as they move from the street to shelters to, hopefully, permanent housing.

"Until the count happens we won't be certain, but obviously with the Howe Street project and others, we are getting closer to ending street homelessness, which is obviously the objective for this count," the city's chief housing officer Mukhtar Latif told reporters.

"We're obviously working towards that deadline and doing our best to achieve that."

Mayor Gregor Robertson, who was elected for a third time in November, first ran on a promise to end street homelessness by 2015. His goal looked exceedingly far fetched after the 2014 homeless count found street homelessness nearly doubled from 2013.

Coun. Kerry Jang defended the ambitious goal after the council meeting.

"If you don't set a goal you don't get there," Jang said. "I'm going to die trying [to end street homelessness], period. This is why I signed up for this job."

A woman cleans out a tent at Oppenheimer Park in Vancouver in October 2014. New temporary and permanent housing has helped Vancouver inch closer to eliminating street homelessness. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/FOR METRO

Councillors support Yes transit vote, residents split: Poll

City council voted unanimously Tuesday to support a Yes vote in the transit funding plebiscite. JENNIFER GAUTHIER/METRO FILE

Vancouver city council unanimously endorsed a Yes vote in the upcoming plebiscite on new transit funding Tuesday, but a new poll suggests residents are split.

Insights West released a poll Tuesday showing 46 per cent of respondents of an online survey will "definitely" or "probably" vote Yes to a new 0.5 per cent regional Congestion Improvement Tax.

That support is down six points since an earlier poll conducted in December, while the number of people intending to "definitely" or "probably" vote No increased to 42 per cent, from 39.

Vancouver councillors of all parties officially put their support behind a positive plebiscite result on Tuesday. Mayor Gregor Robertson emphasized the importance of winning the public's support.

"We have to see a Yes vote on this," Robertson told media.

"I think everyone is generally wary of more taxes when they don't know where the dollars go. In this case, it's very clear. When they see the value for their tax dollars with this transit plan, more people will be convinced."

The region's mayors want to implement the new sales tax to help pay for a 10-year, $7.5-billion proposed transit plan, which includes a subway along Broadway in Vancouver, light rapid transit lines in Surrey, a replacement for the Pattullo Bridge and improved bus service regionwide.

The question will be put to voters in a non-binding, mail-in plebiscite starting March 16.

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO
WITH FILES FROM EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Court. City loses battle to stop CP clearing corridor

The City of Vancouver lost its court battle to stop CP Rail from bulldozing gardens and once more running trains along the Arbutus corridor.

B.C. Supreme Court Chief Justice Hinkson ruled Tuesday that CP is well within its rights to clear impediments from the 8.8-kilometre stretch so the company can reactivate the railway that traverses through some of the city's wealthiest neighbourhoods.

CP started clearing the gardens last summer but paused to try to sell the land to the city. The parties ended up in court after negotiations fell apart — CP reportedly wants at least $100 million, but the city refuses to pay more than $20 million. CP would also consider a land swap, but the city hasn't jumped at that option either.

CP will take a few weeks to decide its next course of action, CP spokesman Martin Cej told Metro, adding it is safe to assume it will work to get the corridor back into operational condition.

"The fact of the matter is this is a railway corridor, it is private property … if we are going to bring it up to a safe standard to operate, we do need to clear the property," Cej said.

Trains haven't run along the railway since 2001, leaving the land available for gardeners, cyclists and pedestrians.

"It's disappointing to see that ruling. But the city will continue to use all of our tools to ensure the federal government and the regulators address this issue," Mayor Gregor Robertson said to reporters at city hall on Tuesday.

The city has safety concerns about reactivating the railway and will press its case with the Canadian Transportation Agency, Robertson said.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Smoking. Website tailored toward helping men quit

Men really are from Mars and women really are from Venus, at least when it comes to quitting smoking.

That's the latest finding from University of B.C. researchers who teamed up with the B.C. Lung Association to develop a new quit-smoking website tailored for men.

QuitNowMen.ca aims to arm men with straightforward information that allows them to take a "self-directed approach" to quitting smoking, said website manager Jon Schmidt.

Researchers at UBC ran focus groups in Vancouver, Kelowna and Kamloops and found that men tend to have different reasons and strategies for quitting smoking compared to women, said Joan Bottorff, a nursing professor director of the Institute for Healthy Living and Chronic Disease Prevention.

"If you think about masculinity and the way men do things, they like to figure things out on their own," she said. "They want some advice, but they also want to quit smoking on their own terms."

As far as the researchers are aware, she said the new website is the first time a smoking cessation tool has been developed specifically for men. THANDI FLETCHER/METRO

Group eager to keep beaver barriers up

Stanley Park. Society says person removing wire mesh from trees may be well-meaning, but is putting other animals at risk

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It's a dam mystery, but a Vancouver conservationist says someone seems to be repeatedly removing the mesh wire that protects Stanley Park's trees from overeager beavers.

Robyn Worcester, conservation programs manager for the Stanley Park Ecology Society, said the group has long wrapped the park's larger trees around Lost Lagoon with mesh wire, to protect them from being chomped on by the animals.

But in recent years, Worcester said someone has been regularly unwrapping the wire and tossing it in the water, putting both the trees and other wildlife at risk.

"We've noticed some of the wraps will be taken off and tossed away," Worcester told Metro. "These people might think that they're helping the beavers, but we're not sure why they're really doing it."

Worcester said the beavers have been ruled out as potential culprits.

That's mostly because the wire is connected with pliers that make it impossible for an animal to untie.

"Not unless they have thumbs," she said with a laugh.

That has left the society speculating a person must be behind the wire removal and that this person must believe the job is helping the beavers, said Worcester.

"They may be well-meaning," she said. "Unfortunately, I don't know if someone who cares about beavers would be so careless as to throw the mesh into the water."

Worcester said the society leaves the park's smaller, fast-growing trees unwrapped so the beavers still have access to food and material for building lodges.

Although the society's goal is to keep the beavers healthy and happy, she said it also has to take steps to protect the park's vegetation for other animals.

"We don't want the beaver to leave," she said, "but at the same time, if we let them take down all the large trees, it essentially will cause the degradation of that habitat."

If anyone sees someone tampering with the mesh wire, Worcester said she hopes they educate them that the material is important for protecting the park habitat.

A beaver swims in Stanley Park, where a conservationist says someone has been regularly removing mesh wire that protects the park's larger trees from being chomped on by the animals. COURTESY MARK T. WHITE

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Site C. Hydro head says listening is the solution

The woman in charge of getting the massive Site C hydroelectric dam built in British Columbia's northeast says she's open to more talking and listening to break down a wall of opposition by First Nations.

BC Hydro president and CEO Jessica McDonald said she has learned from experience that the way to get past the answer "no" is to keep talking.

"It's by listening and by having genuine and meaningful conversations," she said. "At the end of the day it's about communication and it's about that we are listening and really understanding and really being open and trying to find solutions that address the very unique concerns that each community will have."

But First Nations leaders say the province's approval of the $8.8-billion project last month means the time for talk is over and the government's idea of consultation was telling them that the massive dam will be built. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dam construction

Construction on the Peace River project is set to start this summer. It will flood agricultural land, First Nations burial and archeological sites and destroy hunting, fishing and spiritual areas.

Crime. Former children's ministry worker facing child pornography charges

Officials say a former worker with B.C.'s Ministry of Children and Family Development is facing child pornography charges.

Crown spokesman Neil MacKenzie says prosecutors have approved charges against Edward Owen Berry over allegations that arose in Prince George in April of last year.

The B.C. College of Social Workers says Berry is a member of the college and worked for the ministry in an upper management position.

College registrar John Mayr says Berry's position at the ministry meant he had a low chance of having direct contact with children.

The ministry confirms a former worker is facing criminal charges but hasn't released more information about the worker or the circumstances of the allegations.

MacKenzie says charges are expected to be formally sworn later this week and Berry is scheduled to appear in court on Jan. 28. THE CANADIAN PRESS

District of Saanich

Watchdog to look into spyware allegations

British Columbia's privacy watchdog is probing an embattled mayor's allegation that spyware is monitoring his office computer and others in the District of Saanich.

Privacy Commissioner Elizabeth Denham says she has decided to act on her own initiative and investigate whether the software installed on Saanich computers complies with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. The decision follows a Jan. 12 news conference where Mayor Richard Atwell alleged his computer was bugged and police had stopped him four times on groundless suspicions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Business

B.C. aces red tape report card

The Canadian Federation of Independent Business has ranked British Columbia as the best province when it comes to reducing red tape.

The organization released its annual red tape report card on Tuesday and B.C. tops the list as the only jurisdiction to get an A.

Quebec and Ontario round out the top three with grades of B+ marks.

"B.C. sets the gold standard in Canada," said Laura Jones, CFIB executive vice-president, in a statement. "They have reduced regulatory requirements by 154,000 or 42 per cent since they first started measuring. Not only did they get on the scale but they keep weighing in to keep regulatory excess in check." MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

Clay Imoo, Arielle Tuliao, centre, and Marie Hui outside the Vancouver Art Gallery on Tuesday. The trio has released a Seattle Seahawks fan parody song to the tune of Taylor Swift's hit Blank Space. CAM TUCKER/METRO

Trio releases new Seahawks shanty

Super Bowl. Last year's tribute song netted nearly 190,000 YouTube views

CAM TUCKER
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With the Seattle Seahawks as their inspiration, the Vancouver musical trio of Marie Hui, Clay Imoo and Arielle Tuliao is back with another song of tribute to the NFC Champions.

On Tuesday morning, bright and early at 7 a.m., the trio released its newest song and video, a parody of Taylor Swift's hit Blank Space, designed to hit a high note with local football fans as the Seahawks prepare for the 2015 Super Bowl against the New England Patriots on Feb. 1.

Mere hours after the Seahawks advanced to the Super Bowl, Imoo starting putting together the lyrics — around 11 p.m. on Sunday.

"The way Clay writes these songs, these parodies, is so similar to the original song — the amount of syllables, the rhyming," said Hui.

On Monday, the trio began recording. By 1 a.m. Tuesday morning, the final editing had been completed and the finished copy was set to go up online.

"Once they beat Carolina, we said we better get ready," said Imoo during an interview alongside Hui and Tuliao on Tuesday.

Setting up and recording takes about five or six hours, and is done in Imoo's family living room, with two cameras and a laptop running the program GarageBand.

This latest project came together in the span of just 26 hours. The harmonious tune celebrates he of Beast Mode fame, Marshawn Lynch, cornerback Richard Sherman, quarterback Russell Wilson and other favourites.

Last year for the Seahawks' Super Bowl appearance, the trio released Soar — their rendition of Katy Perry's Roar — and it now has more than 189,000 hits on YouTube.

The group says it's their way to express their creative fandom, but they don't have plans to record and release another tune prior to the Super Bowl.

"We just might have a year to plan a three-peat song."

Quoted

"Once they beat Carolina, we said we (had) better get ready." Clay Imoo

Clark demands details of pipeline spill plan

Oil pipeline builder Kinder Morgan says it is more than willing to share its entire spill-response plan directly with the British Columbia government as it seeks approval for a proposed $5.4-billion pipeline-expansion project.

While the energy giant raised concerns over disclosing personal, security or commercially sensitive information, Premier Christy Clark demanded on Tuesday that more details of the safety plan be made public through the National Energy Board.

"There's always going to be some information in response plans like ours that isn't appropriate to file publicly," Michael Davies, a Kinder Morgan senior director, said in an interview.

Withholding information is not an issue of secrecy but rather of appropriateness, he added.

"What's being discussed is whether or not all of these details should be filed on the public record, where it's open to everyone."

But the B.C. government said it remained dissatisfied with Kinder Morgan's guarantee of complete but confidential access — an offer the company said extended to local governments and first-responder agencies along the pipeline route.

"It's to get it on the public record," said an Environment Ministry spokesman about the government's persistence. "That's the long and short of it." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Alleged sexism, use of drugs at Calgary city hall

Councillor conduct.
Committee hears long list of allegations against councillors for inappropriate behaviour

ROBSON FLETCHER
Metro in Calgary

Calgary's mayor says he has received several complaints about members of council getting exceedingly drunk at community events, drinking during council meeting breaks and even bringing illegal narcotics to city hall — but there's nothing existing ethics rules can do to stop it.

A veteran female city councillor, meanwhile, says she has witnessed multiple instances of male councillors behaving toward women at city hall in ways that "would be firing offences" in other workplaces.

Their comments came during a wild committee meeting Tuesday surrounding alcohol consumption and expensing policies that turned into a forum for levelling accusations and airing grievances.

Without naming names, committee members took turns outlining concerning behaviour of their colleagues — past and present — while speaking increasingly specifically about events that have not been fully made public.

"To be frank with you, I have received multiple complaints about members of council who have gotten blotto at community events," Mayor Naheed Nenshi said at one point.

"I've even received reports of illicit substances in the workplace, and at this point there's no way to investigate them," the mayor later added. "There's nothing to do about them."

Coun. Druh Farrell, meanwhile, tied the discussion back to allegations revealed late last year regarding a "systemic issue" of misconduct within the office of city councillors, which led council to agree to "respectful workplace" training following a closed-door meeting.

"It speaks to a tone, and that really concerns me," Farrell said Tuesday. "You have mostly men in a position of power and you have women in supporting roles and you add alcohol into that mix."

Farrell, one of two female members on Calgary's 15-person council, was first elected in 2001 and said she has seen some "wild parties during working hours" in her time at city hall.

Coun. Andre Chabot, a 10-year council veteran, said council has become "way more conservative" in the past decade over these types of issues.

"Previous councils were a lot more lax," Chabot said, admitting he last had a drink in his office in December. "You want to look back at the Ralph Klein days? In the Ralph Klein days they used have to wine for supper — in council."

Chabot also said the allegations raised Tuesday are "untrue" and described some of his colleagues' comments as "irresponsible."

Calgary Mayor Naheed Nenshi's Ismaili faith prevents him from drinking, but he says he's received "multiple complaints" about other members of council drinking to excess. ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO IN CALGARY

Audit

Dying with Dignity loses tax status

The federal government is stripping Dying with Dignity Canada of its charitable tax status following a political-activity audit by the Canada Revenue Agency.

The organization advocates choice and dignity at the end of life.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Iraq

Canada leading airstrike operation

In helping Kurdish fighters direct airstrikes against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) forces in Iraq, the Canadian military may have put itself out front of even the U.S., which is not using its special-forces operators in front lines, a U.S. spokesman confirmed Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Justice review

MacKay averse to top Mountie's idea

Justice Minister Peter MacKay said he doesn't see the need for an in-depth examination of justice-system protocols as suggested by the head of the RCMP after the recent shootings of two Mounties in Alberta.

RCMP Commissioner Bob Paulson said last weekend the fact that the suspected shooter was let free despite having a violent criminal history including a series of overlapping firearm bans may spark a review.

"I don't think, in my view, in my experience, having some sort of a pause where we have a full-blown examination or royal commission or some sort of a study is really going to provide us the answers that we need," MacKay said Tuesday in Montreal.

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State of the Union. Obama focuses on taxes, economy

U.S. President Barack Obama said Tuesday it was time for Americans to "turn the page" on years of economic troubles, terrorism and lengthy wars, using his sixth State of the Union speech to outline new tax policies that would hit the wealthiest Americans and give breaks to the middle class.

Obama spoke to a Congress controlled by opposition Republicans, but the policies the president called for suggested that he had no plans to curtail his own agenda in favour of Republican priorities.

Obama's speech proposed increased tax rates for wealthy Americans, with much of the new revenue earmarked for measures to benefit low- and middle-income earners who have seen wages stagnate for years. While he made a bold proposal, tax-averse Republicans are unlikely to act on the president's plan.

But Obama used one of his biggest platforms, a speech that was nationally televised to tens of millions of Americans on Tuesday evening, to highlight the issue of growing economic inequality.

U.S. President Barack Obama
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

"The verdict is clear," Obama said. "Middle-class economics works. Expanding opportunity works. And these policies will continue to work, as long as politics don't get in the way."

Obama also promoted his recent decision to normalize diplomatic relations with Cuba and asked for new congressional approval and funding for the military campaign against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL).

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ransom demand

ISIL threatens to kill Japanese hostages

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) group threatened to kill two Japanese hostages within 72 hours, demanding a $200-million ransom in a video posted online Tuesday that showed a masked militant standing over two captives. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AirAsia

Plane climbed fast before crash

An AirAsia plane that crashed last month with 162 people on board was climbing at an abnormally high rate, then plunged and suddenly disappeared from radar, Indonesia's transport minister said Tuesday.

Ignasius Jonan told Parliament that radar data showed the plane was climbing at about 6,000 feet a minute before it disappeared on Dec. 28. He said the plane then plunged toward the sea.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paris Mayor Anne Hidalgo, right, prominent French physician Patrick Pelloux, second from right, and New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio, third from right, pause after laying a wreath of flowers Tuesday at the site of the Charlie Hebdo newspaper attack in Paris. FRANCOIS MORI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

France seeks to lay charges in attacks

Terror. New measures to prevent future attacks include increased intelligence gathering on extremists

French anti-terror prosecutors were seeking to charge four men Tuesday in connection with the attacks in Paris that left 20 people dead. The men would be the first suspects charged in the country's bloodiest terrorist attacks in decades.

The four men, all in their 20s, remained in court late Tuesday awaiting an anti-terror judge's decision on whether to open preliminary investigations against them.

The possible charges were expected just hours before the French government was to unveil new measures aimed at helping head off future attacks, giving police more power to tap phones, monitor websites and force Internet companies to block online hate messages.

Prime Minister Manuel Valls will present new security measures Wednesday that will include efforts to increase intelligence gathering against jihadis and other radicals, block their activities on the Internet and prevent them from collaborating inside prisons or travelling abroad to fight, President François Hollande said.

The court case and the arrests came as Valls urged his nation to do some soul searching about the country's deep ethnic divisions and declared that fighting hatred, anti-Semitism and racism was a top priority.

The Paris prosecutor's office said the four men in court Tuesday were suspected of providing logistical support to Amedy Coulibaly, one of the terrorists killed by police, and requested they be detained longer.

Coulibaly shot a policewoman to death on the outskirts of Paris and then killed four hostages inside a kosher supermarket before being shot dead by police.

Five others arrested in the investigation were released without charge, prosecutors said. No one has been charged with direct involvement in the Paris terror attacks.

Coulibaly claimed allegiance to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) group while the two brothers who attacked the Charlie Hebdo satirical newspaper said they were backed by al-Qaida in Yemen.

In Bulgaria, a court on Tuesday agreed to extradite a Frenchman who knew one of the two Kouachi brothers who massacred 12 people at the newspaper. Fritz-Joly Joachin told the Bulgarian court he was innocent and wanted to return to Paris to clear his name.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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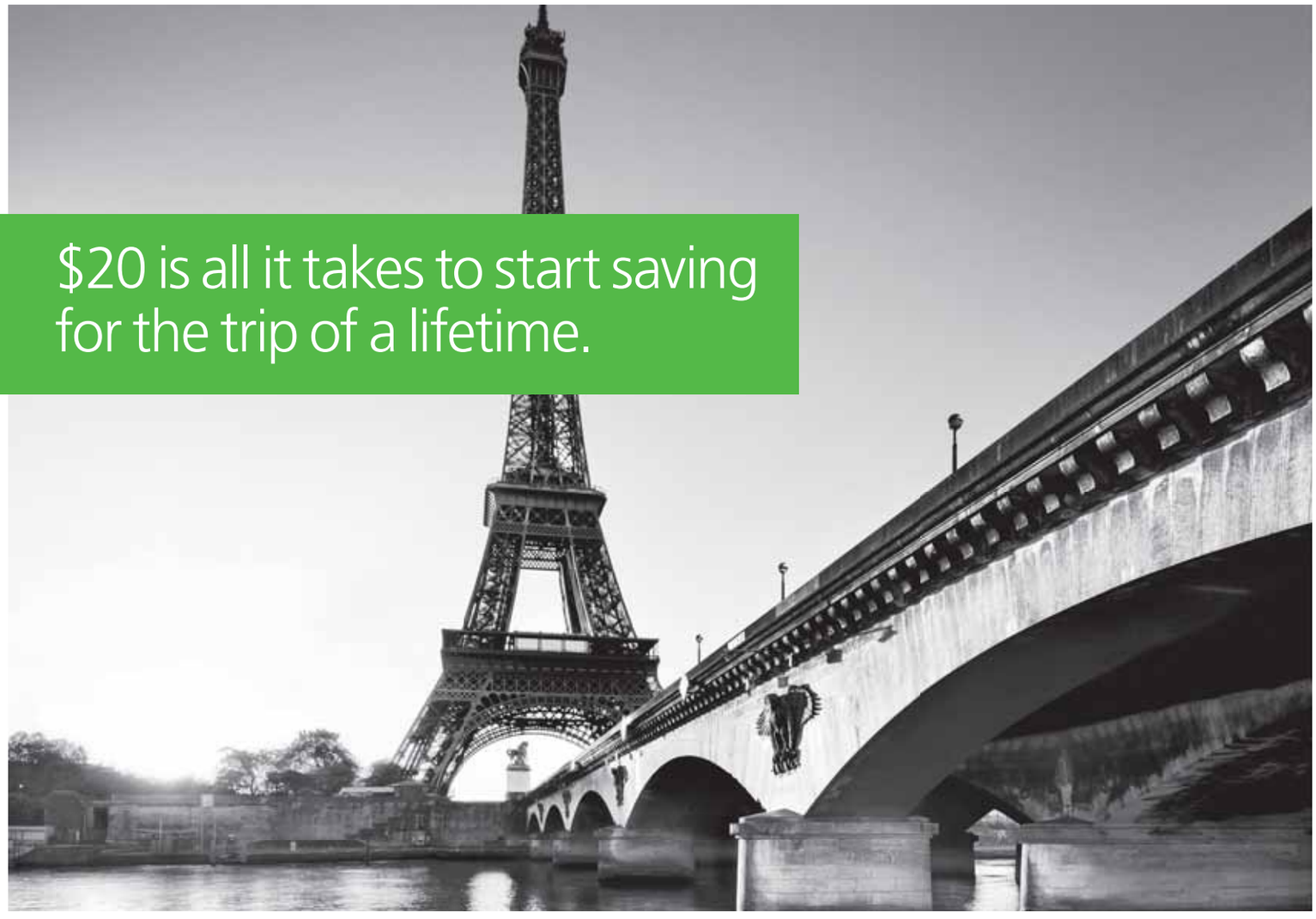

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Teen builds Braille printer with Lego kit

California. Eighth-grader's dream of producing a low-cost machine for the blind gets backing from Intel

A 13-year-old boy, Shubham Banerjee, has launched a company to develop low-cost machines to print Braille, the tactile writing system for the visually impaired.

The California eighth-grader built a Braille printer with a Lego robotics kit as a school science fair project last year.

Shocked to learn Braille printers cost at least $2,000 US — too expensive for most blind readers — Banerjee started Braigo Labs last summer with an initial $35,000 US investment from his dad, an engineer at Intel Corp.

Shubham used the money to build a more sophisticated version of his Lego-based printer using an off-the-shelf desktop printer and a newly released Intel computer chip.

Intel executives were so impressed with the printer that in November they invested an undisclosed sum in his startup. Intel officials believe he's the youngest entrepreneur to receive venture capital money.

Braigo Labs is using the money to hire professional engineers and advisers to help design and build Braille printers based on Shubham's ideas. The company aims to have a prototype ready for blind organizations to test this summer and have a Braigo printer on the market later this year.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Shubham Banerjee, 13, launched a company to develop a Braille printer based on a prototype he built with his Lego robotics kit. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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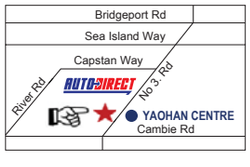

Retail. GoodLife Fitness eyeing Target locations

Is a Canadian exercise club a good fit for an old Target? GoodLife Fitness seems to think so.

In a statement sent out Tuesday, GoodLife Fitness said it is eyeing the soon-to-be-vacant Target stores across Canada as an option to expand.

The fitness chain's goal is to expand to 400 locations in 2015, with a goal to eventually reach 1,000 storefronts, the CEO said.

"The former Target locations provide spacious and convenient locations that would be an excellent space," David Patchell-Evans, GoodLife Fitness CEO, said in a statement.

"In 1999, we acquired 12 of the former Eaton's stores, and at that time we were a much smaller company and solely based in Ontario, so we are definitely poised for this type of growth.

Patchell-Evans told Metro that GoodLife is looking at a number of options but would not go into specifics.

"(We're) in the beginning stages of expressing interest in many Target locations and evaluating what might be possible," he said. "To date, we have had high-level discussions with a number of landlords."

Patchell-Evans said former Target employees are encouraged to apply for jobs with GoodLife, noting whenever possible, Target employees would get first crack at interviews.

ELISHA DACEY/METRO IN WINNIPEG

Market Minute

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TSX 14,398.44 (-4.06)

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VOICES

A COOL POPE IS STILL A POPE

With his off-script common-sense pronouncements based on love and kindness, the latest leader of the Catholic church has been handing some excellent smackdowns to the pious powers that be. But when he tells his flock they don't need to be like rabbits, but shouldn't use birth control, what's an agnostic supposed to do but poke fun?

PAUL SULLIVAN
readers@metronews.ca

Pope Francis's latest headline-grabbing remarks: "Some people think that — excuse my expression here — in order to be good Catholics we have to be like rabbits. No. Parenthood is about being responsible. This is clear." METRO PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCK

The latest advice from Pope Francis to the Catholic flock: don't be like rabbits. Presumably he's not referring to having big ears and a cute fluffy tail.

Before I go any further, I should make it clear that Pope Francis is the best pope ever, even better than Pope John XXIII and the unfortunate 33-day pope, John Paul I, who showed brief promise.

Francis, who named himself after the best saint ever, has tightened the Roman collar around more than one powerful Vatican neck with his off-script common-sense pronouncements based on love and kindness.

It was reported that the Pope told a little boy who just lost his dog that all dogs go to heaven. Turns out he didn't really say that, but he didn't rush to issue any denials, either. Just helped pick up the theologians who fainted when they heard the report.

But, hey, he's still the pope, and there's a line the pope can never cross: birth control.

Apparently using any technology other than restraint remains at the top of the list of Catholic no-nos — the technical term is sins — as the Pope re-affirmed on the way home from his visit to the Philippines.

Clearly, the shoes of the fishermen weren't quite touching the ground as Il Papa told reporters that people should practise "responsible parenting," as in, "Not tonight, dear, we already have 11 kids."

You'd think that responsible parenting would include tactical use of condoms, birth-control pills, etc., anything that would head off the rush of sperm swimming like the dickens to increase the world's population — oblivious as sperm are to the requirement to feed, clothe and house all those babies once they arrive.

Of course this new doctrine of "responsible parenting" is a real departure from the bad old days, when God told good Catholics to breed like rabbits … and eat fish sticks on Friday. In today's church, says Francis, there's no need to breed like a bunny. But he's a little vague on the appropriate animal role model going forward. Maybe salmon, which have sex every four years.

OK, so I'm not infallible.

Poor Francis is wrapped in a dogmatic dilemma: bringing birth control to the party puts a host of horny Catholics on the slippery slope. It means that the option exists to have sex for purposes other than procreation (as if, snort!).

But the church is apparently willing to go down fighting on this one, even if it means confounding the faithful and providing the faithless with another reason to engage in unholy jest.

Forget gyms; what we need are good old-fashioned indoor parks

SEAN MCKIBBON
readers@metronews.ca

Target's departure is going to leave some very large commercial spaces empty, with various mega-corporations jostling to fill the space.

Included on that list is fitness giant Goodlife, which announced this week that it is interested in taking over the lease. As a mildly overweight 40-something dude with two kids, this got me thinking.

With some of these spaces hovering at around 100,000 square feet, the gym chain could certainly fill these spaces with fun things like pools and saunas — but what I'm really thinking is an indoor park.

In other words, a place where my kids could do what they like to do when they get into a Target or other open area in the winter time: run like the dickens.

I don't mean a fitness club. A park. With plants. A few teeter totters, maybe some hoops, some benches.

Fake grass, real grass, I don't know — but some place where I don't have to worry about the kids giving some poor security guard the unpleasant task of being the heavy and telling them to not run around.

Y'know, like a park park

Fake grass, real grass, I don't know — but some place where I don't have to worry about the kids giving some poor security guard the unpleasant task of being the heavy and telling them to not run around.

In the '50s, people thought about building Iqaluit under a giant dome, but that never took off. As a former resident of Nunavut's capital, I'm kind of glad. The outdoors are nice.

But sometimes, even in balmy southern Canada, it's really cold. And there's that nasty period in the spring when it's still really cold, but taking a canoe to the park seems like a better option than galoshes.

Ottawa, where I live, has some great, large inflatable-dome facilities that even let people go in for walking sessions, but nothing unorganized.

Kids and adults alike need a place to just be themselves.

Maybe there could be a play structure, but not one of those nutty giant hamster mazes. My kids love going to those places and doing laser tag or the trampoline park. Those places are all great but they aren't what I'm talking about.

When they're little, you have to kind of run after them. Mildly overweight, 40-something dudes do not belong in giant hamster mazes.

Maybe I should get a Goodlife membership.

But I still want that indoor park.

Sean McKibbon is the managing editor of Metro Ottawa. He adores his children, who are actually very well behaved but exceptionally fast runners.

metro

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Gossip

NED EHRBAR

METRO'S TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

Johnny Depp ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Johnny is not with the band

Attention actors who try to launch music careers: Stop it. You're making Johnny Depp sick. "That whole idea for me is a sickening thing, it's always just made me sick," Depp said while promoting Mortdecai in Berlin. "I hate the idea, 'Come see me play guitar because you've seen me in 12 movies.' It shouldn't be. You want the people who are listening to the music to only be interested in the music." Firm but fair.

So, according to Depp's strict, Draconian take on how music should be appreciated, which of his fellow movie stars are in violation?

Jared Leto certainly jumps to mind, as does Scarlett Johansson — hey, remember her album of Tom Waits covers? Yeah, no. Oh, and Russell Crowe has a band. And doesn't his Mortdecai co-star Gwyneth Paltrow like to sing, too? Man, they're all going to have some explaining to do when they see Depp at the next Millionaire Movie Stars Rotary Club meeting.

But at least some good comes from all of this, as Depp insists, "You won't be hearing The Johnny Depp Band. That won't ever exist."

How to totally not talk about dating Taylor Swift

Matt Healy, ostensibly the singer of the band The 1975, is becoming much better known as the guy who insists he's not dating Taylor Swift, despite photos of the pair together and his regular comments during interviews about meeting her. But God, guys, why do you keep bringing it up? He totally doesn't want to talk about it. Except he does: It's "all bloody fake. It's a farce," Healy insists during a recent radio interview.

Taylor Swift

"We met each other, we exchanged numbers in the same way that a lot of people in this world kind of do, and we spoke occasionally. She's the biggest pop star in the world and I'm in Australia. There's no relationship of anything happening. It's just funny how people really, really buy into that."

That's all fine and good, but why do you have to bag on Australia like that? What's wrong with Australia?

Moore was just hating on snipers in general, alright?

Michael Moore is peeved at the press for turning his casual discussion of snipers and why they're terrible into an attack on box office titan American Sniper. The nerve of some people, right?

Moore initially tweeted, "My uncle (was) killed by (a) sniper in WWII. We were taught snipers were cowards. Will shoot (you) in the back. Snipers aren't heroes," and that tweet just happened to go out as most of Hollywood was remarking at how much money Clint Eastwood's new movie was making. But that does not mean the two are related, according to Moore.

"Deadline Hollywood and the Hollywood Reporter turned that into stories about how I don't like Clint Eastwood's new film, American Sniper. I didn't say a word about American Sniper in my tweets."

Yeah, guys. Come on. Can't a guy just casually talk about snipers completely apropos of nothing, free of any agenda? Yeesh.

Michael Moore

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Cookie Lyon, right, played by Taraji P. Henson, visits her son Jamal (Jussie Smollett, centre) and his partner Mike in the premiere episode of Empire. CHUCK HODES/FOX

On Fox drama Empire, Cookie rules the roost

New series. At the heart of show about a hip-hop dynasty is a glamorous, fiercely astute businesswoman

Taraji P. Henson is driving down an L.A. street, chatting on her cellphone, when a billboard catches her eye.

"Hi, me! Hiiii!" she says, smiling at her latest on-screen incarnation: glamorous ex-con Cookie in Empire (which airs Wednesdays on OMNI 2, OMNI AB, OMNI BC and on Fox).

Draped in fabulous furs and drenched in attitude, Henson's Cookie is the heart of the Fox drama, a fiercely devoted mother and astute businesswoman who's fearless when it comes to getting what she wants. Her sometimes-reluctant partner is Lucious Lyon (Terrence Howard), a music mogul deciding which of their three sons should run the family's entertainment empire.

Henson has seen her face on billboards before, with dozens of film credits (including 2008's The Curious Case of Benjamin Button, for which she earned a supporting actress Oscar nod) and popular TV series such as Person of Interest to her name. "Sometimes I forget, you know what I mean?" she says. "I just go on about my day, and look up and go, 'That's right, I do have a TV show coming out!'"

The 44-year-old actress pulled over to talk with The Associated Press about the new show and the empire that is Taraji P. Henson.

Who is Cookie?
She is a hero. I mean, she is the truth. She is strong. She's family first. She's a lot of things. She doesn't compromise at all — never herself, and never her truth. That's what I love about her ... She says things that I might not have the guts to say. I love the way she dresses. I love how much she cares about her sons.

How is it working with Terrence Howard again, your old pal from Hustle & Flow?
I just know that I really like working with Terrence. I trust him. And for me as an artist — acting, you really have to be uninhibited. You cannot have any hang-ups. Or if you do, they can't breathe and live through these characters, because their hang-ups aren't your hang-ups. So for me in order to fully explore characters without throwing Taraji in the mix, I have to feel safe ... And with Terrence, I'm so safe with him, I can try anything... We're friends. We've known each other, so it really works for Cookie and Lucious. When they came to me with the project, I said it has to be Terrence. When I cracked open the script, I saw no one but Terrence.

What's most challenging to you as an actress right now?
Challenging is getting what I think I deserve to be paid. (It's) challenging to get the projects I want done or greenlit. I'm still having to prove I'm bankable. But I think it's getting better!

I'm not one to wallow in the muck and say how bad. I don't harp on how bad things are... My thing is to prove each and every time I'm on the screen — whether it's TV, whether it's film, whether it's the stage — Taraji is going to deliver. So when I do get that moment — 'cause it's coming, I work too hard — when I do get that moment, that perfect movie comes along and some studio is going to say, 'I believe in her.' Not me and a man. Not me and another guy, no. Taraji P. Henson is going to open this film. Then I know that I'm doing my job. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Empire -Idol mash-up

- American Idol producers have talked about a cross-promotion with Empire, Fox's hot new series about a music industry family, perhaps getting some of the contestants on the scripted show. "The music connection would be silly to ignore," said Trish Kinane, executive producer of American Idol.
- The two shows air back-to-back on Wednesday nights. Empire has been a success out of the box, already earning an order for a second season, while age has cost American Idol its long-time status of television's biggest show.

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New Zealand is for lovers

Accommodations. Here are some dreamy hideouts if you're looking to hole up a world away with your partner

KATHY ULLYOTT
scene@metronews.ca

Whether you and your beloved are honeymooning for the first or the 15th time, these spectacular New Zealand romantic retreats are perfect for your stay on the island of "the long white cloud."

Hotel DeBrett, Auckland hoteldebrett.com

With its thick bespoke, 100 per-cent-New-Zealand-wool carpeting, eclectic mix of Art Deco and mid-century furnishings and meticulous attention to comfort, the Hotel DeBrett is exactly what owner Michelle Deery designed it to be: a luxurious, stylish home base in the dramatic, cosmopolitan business capital of New Zealand. Right downtown on Auckland's High Street, the Hotel DeBrett features such luxuries as hand-screen-printed bed throws, spa bath and shower and salon-quality hair dryers. Its on-site restaurant, DeBrett's Kitchen, has won a wall full of awards, including Metro 2014 Restaurant of the Year.

Duke of Marlborough Hotel, Russell theduke.co.nz

The Duke proudly boasts that it has been "refreshing rascals and reprobates since 1827," when the Bay of Islands town of Russell was a raucous whaling port notorious for its, um, nightlife. Now, the once-named "hell-hole of the Pacific" is a charming retreat, and Riki Kinnaird and three associates have transformed the old Duke into its jewel. In addition to 25 rooms, all with spectacularly romantic views of the Bay of Islands, The Duke's restaurant claims "the freshest seafood in New Zealand" and its menu is a sampler of kiwi delicacies: Waikare Inlet oysters, green-lipped mussels, forest mushrooms, Matakana blue cheese and wild Raukumara venison.

The Duke of Marlborough boasts romantic views of the Bay of Islands and the "freshest seafood in New Zealand."
ALL PHOTOS: CONTRIBUTED

The Farm at Cape Kidnappers is situated on a 6,000 acre working farm.

Indulge in the Wai Ora's award-winning spa treatments.

The Farm at Cape Kidnappers, Hawke's Bay capekidnappers.com

You could be forgiven for wanting to spend your entire honeymoon vacation at this five-star luxury lodge hotel. A Relais & Chateau property on 6,000 secluded acres of working farm, it offers individual lodge accommodation with incredible views of storied Cape Kidnappers — one of Captain Cook's original New Zealand landings. In addition to an infinity pool, par-71 golf course, an award-winning restaurant and luxury spa, you can enjoy cycling and trout fishing. However, The Farm is also a sanctuary for the famed kiwi, and a relationship between the hotel and New Zealand Environmental Services allows you to hike out on a Kiwi Discovery Walk with a conservationist to find the country's secretive emblem. You can also visit the gannet colony on Black Reef, or pack a picnic to take on any one of seven walking/cycling trails that wander through the gorges, woods and seashores of the property.

The Spire, Queenstown thespirehotel.com

Owners (and sisters) Amelia and Lucy Gain purchased the elegant, 10-room Spire just

If you go...

It's a long flight to the Antipodes (13 hours from Vancouver; 18 from Toronto), so fly as comfortably as you can. There are good reasons why Air New Zealand wins bundles of awards worldwide every year from both airlines' and travellers' associations; not least among them, their hilarious safety videos. (Right now, you can enjoy "An Unexpected Briefing" featuring a cast of hobbits, dwarves, elves and Peter Jackson himself.) You might even win your trip for free: go to airnewzealand.com and enter before Jan. 31, 2015 for a chance to win two economy class tickets.

Visit metronews.ca to find out about three more honeymoon destinations in New Zealand.

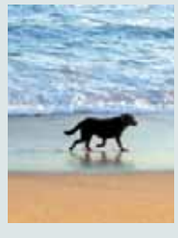
How-to

Navigate connecting flights

1. Mentally prepare yourself for weather delays — for planes, trains and automobiles.
2. Book flights as early as possible, and go with the morning routes. There is more chance of correcting a connecting problem if it occurs early in the day.
3. Leave lots of time between flights in case your starting leg is behind schedule.
4. What's the weather in your connecting city? There's more chance of weather delays in New York than in Miami, for example.
5. Consider that smaller connecting airports will have fewer problems, less people, less traffic, etc.
6. Can't handle it? Pay the extra money to fly non-stop. DOUG WALLACE/METRO

New

Barbados goes pet-friendly



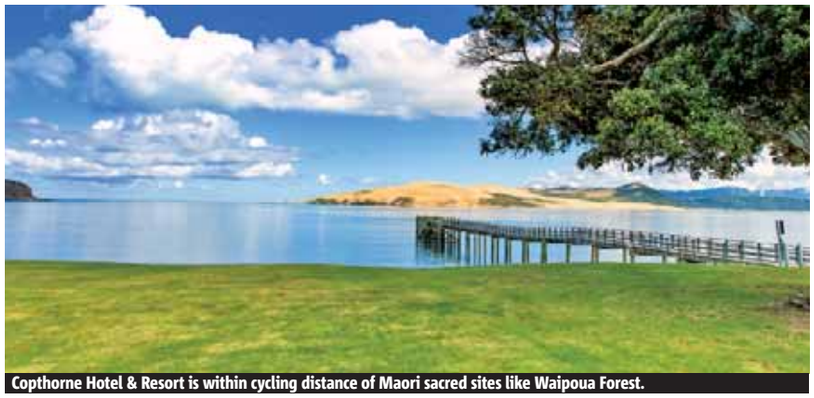
Pack up your pets: Barbados is now allowing Canadian cats and dogs onto the islands. With 40 per cent of Canadians travelling to Barbados being repeat visitors, this sunny "second home" can now include the furry member of the family. Pets need to be ID'd with a microchip, be vaccinated against rabies and carry an official health certificate from the vet. Just think of the dog-sitting money you'll save! Visit agriculture.gov.bb. DOUG WALLACE/METRODOUG WALLACE/METRO

Stopover

Taste of Iceland

Tour operator Monograms is introducing an Iceland Stopover Program, enticing travellers on their way to and from Europe with a three-day mini tour, with digs at the swish Icelandair Reykjavik Marina Hotel. The trip includes breakfast, airport transfers, a sightseeing tour, a visit to Hallgrimskirkja Church and help from a local tour guide. From $800, airfare not included. Icelandair flies to 20+European cities, so that's kind of a no-brainer. Visit monogramstravel.ca.

TEXT: DOUG WALLACE/METRO PHOTO: TIM STEWART


Copthorne Hotel & Resort is within cycling distance of Maori sacred sites like Waipoua Forest.

over three years ago, and the hotel is a testament to their attention to pampering detail. Guests are greeted with welcoming bubbly, fruit and chocolate (for two, natch); sinuous Danish recliners invite relaxation before the fireplace; L'Occitane toiletries accent a spa-style bath or shower. While right downtown in bustling Queenstown, the rooms are soothing and quiet, with views overlooking the 82-year-old St. Peter's Anglican Church, from which the hotel draws its name.

Copthorne Hotel & Resort, Hokianga millenniumhotels.co.nz/copthornehokianga

According to legend, Kupe, the ancestor and founder of the Maori on New Zealand, landed here in Hokianga Harbour some 1,000 years ago, calling the protected inlet home. Right on the harbor, and just cycling-distance away from Maori sacred sites such as Waipoua Forest is the Copthorne Hotel and Resort, a 108-year-old boutique inn perfect for weddings, receptions and honeymoons. Owner Pip Lloydd says many couples choose to wed at the spectacular grounds overlooking the Tasman Sea.

Wai Ora Lakeside Spa Resort, Rotorua

Hotel DeBrett is located in downtown Auckland.

waioraresort.co.nz

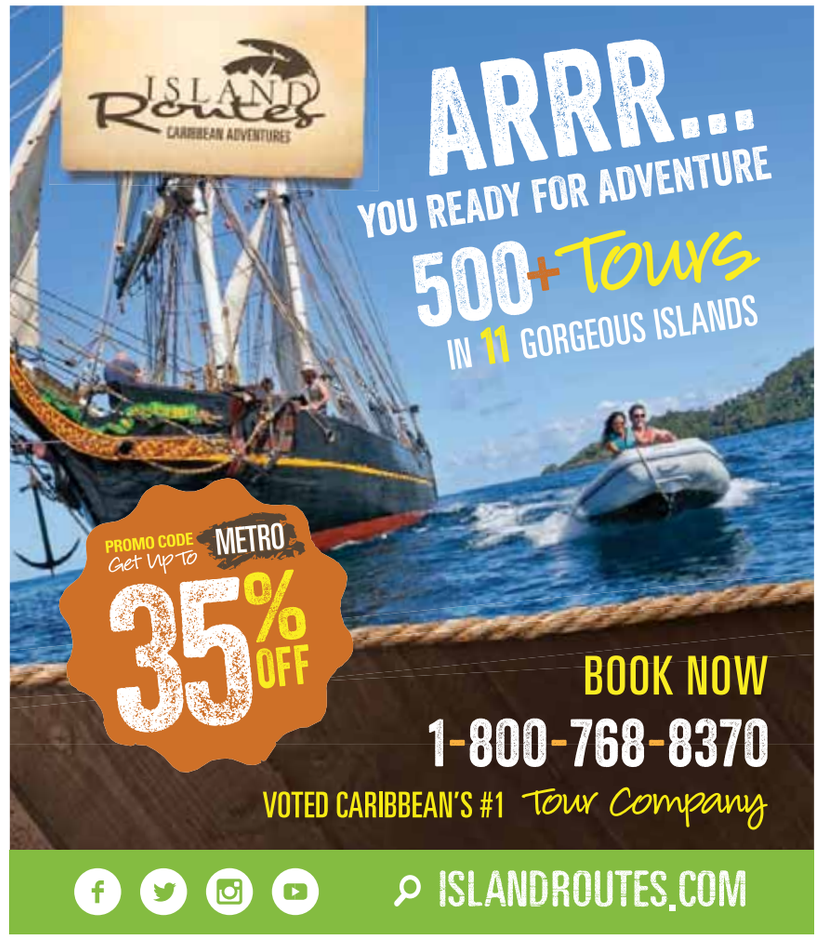
The mineral-rich hot springs of Rotorua have been drawing health-conscious tourists to New Zealand since the mid-1800s. The Wai Ora (the name means "healing waters") is not just an ideal base from which to explore this history-rich area, but to relax and indulge in international-award-winning spa facilities and treatments. The on-site Mokoia Restaurant offers Pacific Rim infusion cuisine, outstanding service and panoramic views of Lake Rotorua.

Bucket list

Diving in Cozumel

Mainland Mexico is terrific, but the island of Cozumel just south of Cancun is off-the-dial beautiful and has regained its footing since hurricane Wilma crashed through in 2005. Quiet and unhurried, it is considered one of the best places in the world to scuba dive, with more than 30 incredible sites on the west coast and a smaller dive scene on the east. Dressel Divers, which operates from the Iberostar Cozumel dock, even takes short breaks back on land between tanks. The all-inclusive resorts are quiet and good value. Leave your resort for the day and try the beach clubs around the island, such as Beachclub Buccanos Bar & Grill and Money Bar Beach Club.

DOUG WALLACE/METRO



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Orlando: Not just Mickey Mouse

More than theme parks. Dining, shopping, and shows make this city worth a visit

VAWN HIMMELSBACH
For Metro

Orlando conjures up images of theme parks, but there is more to this city than roller-coasters and Mickey Mouse. Of course, visitors can expect a few new roller-coasters, too.

"Orlando really works for repeat visitors," said Mark Jaronski, vice-president of global communications with Visit Orlando. "If you're a historic city or a natural wonder, visitors don't want you to change. The beauty of Orlando is that (the city) will constantly change and people come back for that."

Canadians escaping the cold can get their "sun fix," but still experience something new, he said.

While theme parks are constantly reinventing themselves, they now offer a range of private, behind-the-scenes experiences for small groups, such as swimming with dolphins at SeaWorld or going on a backstage tour of the savannah at Disney's Animal Kingdom.

But theme parks aren't just for kids. "Believe it or not, when you look at our total visitor mix, there are more people who visit without children than with children," Jaronski said.

But these days, there is also a lot to experience outside of Orlando's theme parks.

"Dining wasn't one of those thoughts that came immediately to mind when you thought of Orlando," Jaronski said.

But the city is now seeing the rise of celebrity chefs and locally-sourced gourmet fare.

Scratch in Winter Park, for example, serves up modern American tapas with local, seasonal ingredients, while The Smiling Bison in the Milk District offers a craft beer menu and farm-focused dining.

And the Artegon Marketplace recently opened for business — Florida's largest indoor artisan marketplace with more than 160 studio spaces featuring one-of-a-kind boutiques and handcrafted items.

Even downtown Orlando is getting a facelift. The downtown core recently saw the opening of the state-of-the-art Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, the new home for Broadway productions and the Orlando Ballet.

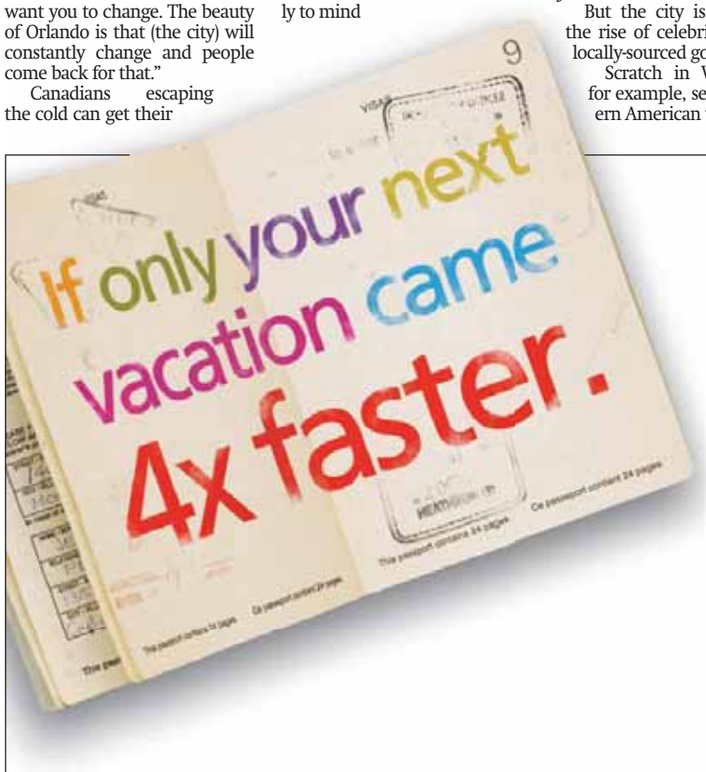
Jaronski also recommends Orlando's lesser-known neighbourhoods and districts, such as Winter Park, with its winding brick streets, boutiques, and outdoor cafés.

Upcoming in Orlando

- Skyplex is bringing the world's tallest roller-coaster to Orlando in 2016.
- Disney World is building an Avatar-inspired land set, slated to open in 2017, complete with floating mountains and bioluminescent rainforests.
- I-Drive 360 is an entertainment complex centred around a giant observation wheel, the Orlando Eye, opening this spring.

Take a ride on the Taumata Racer at Aquatica Orlando. CONTRIBUTED

The Everglades provide the perfect backdrop for a wild adventure into some wetlands. CONTRIBUTED



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Spaghetti moonlights as a savoury pie

Dinner. You lose the traditional pastry shell but still bake this dish and slice it up for a new take on pasta

DINNER EXPRESS
Emily Richards
food@metronews.ca

This spaghetti pie is a long time favourite for my family because it packs a punch when it comes to flavour and meal appeal.

Use your favourite spaghetti but be sure to cook it al dente, which translated means "to the tooth." It should still be slightly firm with a bit of a bite to it, so that means you'll have to be sure to taste your pasta while its cooking to note the change in texture. You might find that you like your pasta a little more al dente than you have been making it. By cooking pasta correctly you will enjoy the dish and also ensure a perfect flavour and texture each time.

Instead of the traditional spaghetti and meat sauce piled high on a plate, this dish is served up like a pie! Just bake the tasty mixture in a pie plate then serve it to your family in wedges with a crisp green salad for a new twist.

Ingredients

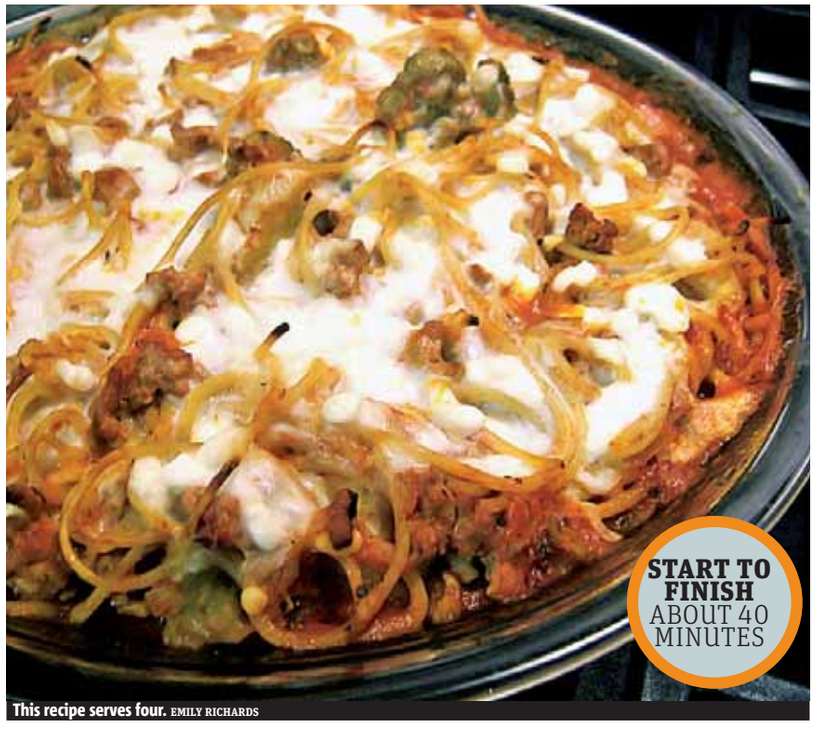
- 8 oz (250 g) extra lean ground turkey
- 2 tsp (10 ml) canola oil
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tsp (5 ml) Italian herb seasoning
- 2 cups (500 ml) chopped broccoli
- 1 1/2 cups (375 ml) pasta sauce
- 2 tsp (10 ml) butter or soft non hydrogenated margarine
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) all purpose flour
- 1 cup (250 ml) skim milk
- 1/2 cup (125 ml) 1% cottage cheese
- 6 oz (175 g) cooked spaghetti (about 3 cups/750 ml)

Directions

1. In large saucepan cook turkey for about 5 minutes or until no longer pink. Drain in sieve to remove fat. Return saucepan to medium heat with oil and cook onion, garlic and Italian seasoning; stirring for about 2 minutes or until onion is softened. Return turkey to saucepan and add broccoli and tomato sauce; bring to a simmer, cover and cook for 5 minutes. Set aside.

2. In another saucepan, melt margarine over medium heat. Whisk in flour until smooth. Whisk in milk and cook, whisking for about 5 minutes or until starting to thicken and bubble. Whisk in cottage cheese and remove from heat.

3. Add al dente spaghetti to turkey mixture and stir in 1/2 cup (125 ml) of the cheese sauce. Pour into 10 inch (25 cm) deep dish pie plate; pressing down to flatten. Spread remaining cheese sauce over top and bake in 350 F (180 C) oven for about 20 minutes or until bubbly. Broil about 6 inches (15 cm) away from broiler for about 2 minutes or until golden on top, if desired. Let cool slightly before cutting into wedges to serve.



This recipe serves four. EMILY RICHARDS

CANADA
PROVINCE DE QUÉBEC
District : Rouyn-Noranda
Localité : Rouyn-Noranda
N° de dossier : 600-17-000548-140

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Montréal, Qc G3B 4L8
Partie demanderesse

Adroit Resources Inc.
1111, Melville Street suite 610
Vancouver, C-B V6E 3V6
Partie défenderesse

ASSIGNATION (art. 139 C.p.c.)

PAR ORDRE DU TRIBUNAL :

Avis est donné à la partie défenderesse que la partie demanderesse a déposé au greffe de la Cour supérieure du district de Rouyn-Noranda une requête introductive d'instance. Une copie de cette requête et de l'avis au défendeur ont été laissés à l'intention de la partie défenderesse, au greffe du tribunal, au palais de justice de Rouyn-Noranda, situé au 2 avenue du Palais, Rouyn-Noranda, Québec J9X 2N9.

Il est ordonné à la partie défenderesse de comparaître dans un délai de 30 jours de la publication de la présente ordonnance.

À défaut de comparaître dans ce délai, un jugement par défaut pourrait être rendu contre vous sans autre avis dès l'expiration de ce délai.

Soyez aussi avisé que la requête introductive d'instance sera présentée pour décision devant le tribunal le **17 février 2015 à 9h00 heures en la salle 01.00** du palais de justice de Rouyn-Noranda.

Rouyn-Noranda le 14 janvier 2015

Greffière Nathalie Pépin

PREPPING FOR DINE OUT – A CHEF'S STORY

Chef David Hawksworth's dining room is buzzing. The sleek restaurant hums with activity as wait staff lay tables with culinary delights, bartenders shake up cocktails and Chef stops at seemingly every table to chat with his guests – but in the next few days, Hawksworth will become even livelier. Earlier this week, the restaurant hosted the first edition of "Side Dishes: The Best of Hawksworth", a series of five longtable feasts inspired by guest favourites that are part of Dine Out Vancouver Festival's roster of 84 culinary events. Join us as Chef takes a break from his bustling kitchen to chat about this year's event and upcoming news from Hawksworth.

Why did you choose to feature guest favourites this year?

If it's a favourite with customers, it's a favourite with us! This event is a good way for new and returning guests to experience what we think, and what other customers think, are the highlights of past and current menus.

How did you compile these particular favourites for the Side Dishes event?

Our guests order these dishes time and again, every day and night. Seeing them on the Side Dishes menus is like resurrecting your oldest and dearest friends.

What's your favourite dish from this event?

The Tuna Carpaccio. Kristian Eligh, our chef de cuisine, came up with that dish. It's refreshing with lots of my favourite flavours – and the soy yuzu dressing is delicious.

How many times did you have to test-drive the recipes before putting them on the menu?

Crafting our dishes is a multi-stage process. First, there's the thought of what a dish can be. Then we test and modify it – it can be modified anywhere from three to 15 times. Ultimately, we won't put anything on the menu until we're satisfied it's a consistent product that everyone will like.

Who gets to taste-test the dishes, and how do we get that job?

Whoever is close enough to the kitchen! It's like growing up in a big family – testers are pretty easy to find, and samples go fast. But the kitchen team tastes everything first, then our wine director and general manager.

What's new on the horizon for Hawksworth.

I'm particularly proud of our Hawksworth Young Chef Scholarship Foundation program, which is now entering its third year. The competition encourages up-and-coming chefs across Canada to create a dish based on ingredients we list on the website (www.hawksworthscholarship.com). The winner receives $10,000 and a stage at a leading international restaurant. I'm also excited about the opening of our new restaurant. We start building in April and anticipate an October/November opening.

Can't wait!

Neither can I!

For the full details:
DineOutVancouver.com
SONU PURHAR / FOR TOURISM VANCOUVER

How to stand out in an interview situation

Career. Make yourself memorable using these one-on-one tips

VERONICA YAO
TalentEgg.ca

One of the toughest parts of the job hunt is making it through the written application stage. While a resumé is excellent for communicating your skills and accomplishments, it's not a great tool for conveying your personality.

As soon as you're called in for an interview, you go from being words on a page to a living, breathing human being.

Now the ball is in your court — and the last thing you want to do is be forgettable. So here are some tips on how to make your first impressions count with a potential employer.

Catching their eye with a little pop of colour is an easy but effective way of keeping you on their mind. ISTOCK

Wear something memorable

No, don't break out your powder-blue tuxedo. But wearing an appropriate, but memorable accessory can help you stand out among other applicants.

For instance, if you're wearing a suit, you could wear a bow tie, or a coloured pocket square.

If you decide to wear a dress or skirt, you could accessorize with some brightly coloured jewelry.

Many interviewees tend to play it safe by sticking with classic neutral colours — but even something small to make your outfit "pop" can help you do the same in an interviewer's mind.

Furthermore, if your interviewer happens to like what you're wearing, it could spark an interesting conversation that they're not going to have with other candidates.

Take an interest in them as a person

Yes, interviewers are people too. And when they finish their day at five o'clock, they go back to their lives of being a parent, athlete, artist, volunteer — you name it.

People, for the most part, like talking about themselves. If you ask them about their day, and seem genuinely interested, they're usually happy to share.

So while there will be time for the spotlight to be on you, remember to take some time before and after to make smalltalk. If you're not sure where to begin, see if they have a Linkedin profile. Take a look at their interests and previous experiences. Chances are, you'll find something you can bring up casually and chat about. And if you do it well, you will very likely leave a positive impression on your interviewer.

Be passionate and genuine

There's nothing more invigorating than watching someone who is passionate about what they do. It's important to show why you love what you do, and the energy that you'll bring to the company.

This doesn't mean that you eat, sleep, and breathe maintenance work 24 hours a day, or you'll work overtime because you absolutely love working with spreadsheets. Instead, your passion should stem from the satisfaction you get as a result of the job — or even aspects of the job.

An applicant might not love stocking shelves in retail, but they might get an immense sense of satisfaction from coming up with organizational plans and executing them.

You might even link your work ethic to a hobby in your life. If you are a fan of sports, talk about how that passion links to different facets in your life, including work. Or if you're a musician, talk about skills you've gained through teamwork and collaboration.

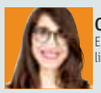
Take notes

Taking notes tells your interviewer that you're listening.

- But more importantly, it says that you are invested in the information they're giving you, and you're open to learning new things. Even if a candidate has all the experience needed for the job, if they're not willing to learn, they're of little use to the employer.
- Bring along a notebook or a tablet to take your notes. If it has a colourful or eye-catching cover — bonus. Again, like a memorable accessory, this is another way you can start a conversation with your employer.
- One last point – don't be afraid to ask them to repeat something. Your note-taking skills are not being judged, but your attitude is.

Advice

A business fib that's about to bite back



OFFICE SPACE
Eleni Deacon
life@metronews.ca

Dear Metro,
So I lied on my resumé about having software skills I don't really have. It was quick decision that I didn't think would backfire, but now I'm in trouble. My boss wants me to lead a project that relies heavily on a computer program I can't actually use. How do I get out of this without seeming like a phony?
— Adobe Dummy

Dear AD,
A little light embellishment can pep up a ho-hum CV. But when your resumé is more padded than a mattress wearing a life jacket, you risk drowning in your own dishonesty. If the software in question is widely used, consider taking an online course. One weekend of practice could get your skills to a passable — read: pretend-able — level. More niche programs will be trickier to learn. Call up old colleagues and ask for a crash course, or scour your office supply closet for a manual you can dust off and study.

No way to wing it? Weigh fessing up vs. flunking your task. Do bad work, and your boss will be irked. But confessing could cost you your job. If possible, downplay your knowledge: emphasize that you're more novice than expert, explaining that your skills might be rusty. And next time you update your resumé, enhance the abstracts — not the hard facts.

Dear Metro,
I really don't click with one of my co-workers. There's no particular reason for the tension — we just don't get along. For the most part, we ignore each other. But I'm starting to worry that my obvious irritation is making me seem like a bad team player. How can I stay professional when I can't stand one of my colleagues?
— Lose My Feud

Dear LMF,
It's understandable — and even inevitable — that one of your workmates will make you berserk. Less acceptable: dealing with it like a jerk. Unless you're employed as a TV mean girl, the silent treatment is not a socially acceptable conflict management technique. Think of this relationship as an investment in your career. Your co-worker may drive you up the wall, but your attitude could be driving down your value as an employee.

Playing nice — or at least faking nice — will show your colleague, as well as the rest of your office, that you prioritize good vibes.

And who knows: a bit of phony small talk may spawn a genuine rapport. You have nothing to gain from maintaining this grudge except your own sense of stubborn superiority. To succeed in the real-world workforce, ditch the teen-movie theatrics.

ELENI DEACON IS A TORONTO-BASED WRITER WHO HAS SEEN IT ALL AS AN EAGER EMPLOYEE OF BIG OFFICES, SMALL OFFICES, HOME OFFICES AND ONE ITALIAN RESTAURANT.

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LAKSHMI GANDHI
Metro in New York City

Sometimes it's helpful to take time away from your studies, even if it means heading to a workplace. ISTOCK

Not many college students can say that they were paid to talk about beer throughout post-secondary school, but that's exactly what Liz Wessel did while she attended the University of Pennsylvania.

"I was the Anheuser-Busch rep on campus,' Wessel explains. "I considered my job a supplement to my education."

It was during her time at Penn that Wessel and classmate J.J. Fliegelman decided to create a site exclusively geared toward students looking for jobs as campus reps. After graduation, the pair decided to create a firm that would connect students with such companies.

Wessel was working in India for Google when she and Fliegelman decided to launch their new company Campus Job — which connects companies with interested student workers. In addition to listings for more conventional college students positions at coffee shops, it also recruits for larger companies as well. Her work experience as a campus rep provided much of the inspiration behind the website, she says.

"I still had no idea what I wanted to do [while I was in college]," recalls Wessel, a political science major.

"It was actually my part-time job that led me to realize 'Wow, I like marketing.'"

We talked to Wessel about how students can build their skills off-campus.

Become a better public speaker

"For my job I had to visit fraternities and sororities to talk about products and also promote the engineering jobs at Anheuser-Busch. I had never gone in front of hundreds of peers to do something like that," says Wessel.

Many of the jobs listed on the site require employees to be comfortable speaking in front of large groups, she notes.

Explore new fields

Wessel advises students use their part-time positions to gain skills outside their courses of study.

"We did an analysis of recent grads and the majority of students said their majors had nothing to do with their jobs," she notes. "We talked to a pre-med student who wanted to look for a job in marketing because they thought, 'Let me try out a new field. Let me gain new skills.'"

Develop connections

"A lot of students also don't know that companies like Microsoft have campus reps...," says Wessel. "Also, typically if an employer wants to hire a student, they want to give them feedback, so it's a chance to grow and build relationships."

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Lightning right-winger Ryan Callahan tries to score from behind the net against Canucks goalie Ryan Miller and defenceman Dan Hamhuis on Tuesday in Tampa. The Canucks had a three-game winning streak snapped. CHRIS O'MEARA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

East-leading Bolts strike down Canucks

NHL. Vancouver closes five-game road trip with a 3-2 record

The Tampa Bay Lightning entered the all-star break on a positive note.

Alex Killorn had two goals, Valtteri Filppula added a goal and an assist, and the Lightning took over the top spot in the Eastern Conference with a 4-1 victory over the Vancouver Canucks on Tuesday night.

"They've done everything we've asked," said Tampa Bay coach Jon Cooper.

On Tuesday

Lightning	Canucks
4	1

Brian Boyle also scored for the Lightning, who lead the New York Islanders by one point in the East. Ben Bishop stopped 27 shots in Tampa Bay's eighth straight home win.

"We're definitely comfortable at home," Lightning defenceman Jason Garrison said.

Tampa Bay kept the Canucks off the scoreboard on seven power plays, including a pair of 5-on-3s.

"Clearly, the penalty kill saved us," Cooper said. "Outstanding."

The Lightning were 0-for-5 with the man advantage.

Vancouver got 22 saves from Ryan Miller. Frank Corrado ruined Bishop's shutout bid at 8:09 of the third. Miller had his chance for a third consecutive shutout end late in the third period of Monday night's 2-1 win at Florida.

The Canucks completed a five-game trip at 3-2.

"The boys gave it everything they could," Miller said. "I'm pretty proud of the way they responded on this trip. We'll get some rest here, and hopefully that attitude and that willingness to compete and grind will be there when we get back."

Vancouver went without a shot for the opening 14:35 and finished the first period with four. The Canucks had just one shot during the third period of Monday's game with Florida.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MLS

Whitecaps draft SFU alum with third-round pick

The Vancouver Whitecaps went with a local flavour in the finale of the MLS SuperDraft on Tuesday.

With the 54th overall pick, the Whitecaps selected midfielder-striker Jovan Blagojevic, who played four seasons with Simon Fraser University in Burnaby. He goes as Vancouver's first pick in the third round.

In 18 games with SFU this past season, Blagojevic scored 18 goals, leading the Great Northwest Athletic Conference in that department.

Blagojevic is originally from Serbia, but moved and British Columbia when he was just two years old. He was named the GNAC Player of the Year, and earned second team All-American honours.

The Whitecaps wrapped up the draft by selecting striker Adam Montague (58th overall); goalkeeper Spencer Richey (61st); defender Craig Nitti (72nd) and defender Nikola Paunic (74th). METRO

English League Cup

Liverpool and Chelsea tie in first leg of semifinal

Raheem Sterling's goal earned Liverpool a 1-1 draw against Chelsea in the first leg of their English League Cup semifinal on Tuesday.

Sterling cancelled out Eden Hazard's first-half penalty. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Australian Open. Canucks move on Down Under

Canadians Milos Raonic and Vasek Pospisil have advanced to the second round of the Australian Open.

Pospisil's match ended on a double-fault from American Sam Querrey, who had beaten the Vancouver native in their only other meeting.

Pospisil finished with 20 aces, 58 winners and broke on four of five chances.

Meanwhile, Milos Raonic, of Thornhill, Ont., fired 28 aces in his 7-6 (3), 7-6(3), 6-3 victory over Ukraine's Illya Marchenko.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Vancouver's Vasek Pospisil will face Italian Paolo Lorenzi in the second round. GETTY IMAGES

NHL draft rankings

McDavid ranked No. 1, as expected

NHL Central Scouting's mid-season rankings are out, and to no one's surprise Connor McDavid is at the top.

The Erie Otters centre is the runaway favourite to be selected first overall at the 2015 NHL draft.

"It's cool, (but) it really doesn't mean anything," McDavid said. "You don't dream about being ranked No. 1 at the mid-term rankings. It's all about what's down the line here."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB. Ex-Jays outfielder finds work in Houston

Outfielder Colby Rasmus has agreed to an $8 million, one-year contract with the Houston Astros.

The deal was announced Tuesday, a day after Houston dealt last year's starting centre fielder, Dexter Fowler, to the Chicago Cubs.

The 28-year-old Rasmus started 80 games in centre field for the Toronto Blue Jays last season and has played both right and left field in his six-year big league career. He batted .225 with 18 homers and 40 RBIs last season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Colby Rasmus signed a one-year deal with the Astros on Tuesday. GETTY IMAGES FILE

NBA

Thunder beat Miami to reach .500

Russell Westbrook scored 19 points and grabbed 10 rebounds, Kevin Durant added 19 points and the Oklahoma City Thunder moved over the .500 mark for the first time this season with a 94-86 win over the Miami Heat on Tuesday night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russel Westbrook THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Great One

Gretzky now a grandfather

Wayne Gretzky is a grandfather.

Paulina Gretzky, the daughter of the hockey legend, and her fiancé Dustin Johnson said in a statement that their son was born Monday morning.

Johnson, an eight-time PGA Tour winner, said mother and baby were healthy, resting and in great spirits. They did not immediately say the baby's name.

Johnson has not played in six months because of "personal issues" that required professional help. Golf.com reported in August that he failed three drug tests. In an interview with Sports Illustrated, Johnson says he has matured recently and become someone kids can look up to. THE CANADIAN PRESS

MLB

Rasmus signs with Astros

Outfielder Colby Rasmus has agreed to an $8-million, one-year contract with the Houston Astros.

The deal was announced Tuesday, a day after Houston dealt centre fielder Dexter Fowler to the Chicago Cubs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Women's soccer

U.S. midfielder strains ligament

U.S. women's national team midfielder Megan Rapinoe strained a ligament in her right knee and will miss the rest of the team's January training camp.

Rapinoe has scored 29 goals in 96 international matches.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kearse's persistence pays off

NFL. Wide receiver turned his own game around and sent Seattle to the Super Bowl

Jermaine Kearse was having an NFC championship game to forget.

The first two times Kearse even got his fingers on a pass from Seattle quarterback Russell Wilson, the ball ended up in the hands of a Green Bay defensive back. Those two deflected interceptions were sandwiched around two other attempted passes from Wilson to Kearse that were also picked off.

Four targets, four interceptions, four miserable moments for Kearse and the Seahawks.

"I just told myself not to feel sorry for myself, to keep pushing through," Kearse said. "Things aren't always going to be perfect, things aren't always going to go your way, but it tells a lot about a person's character on how they respond when things aren't going well. Things are easy when things are going well, but how do you respond when they're not?"

Kearse's response was a moment that will be remembered in Seattle Seahawks' history in the same regard as Richard Sherman's deflection in the NFC championship game against San Francisco a year earlier. In the same end zone as Sherman's play, Kearse caught Wilson's 35-yard TD toss 3:19 into overtime to send Seattle to its second straight Super Bowl.

Wilson noticed Green Bay with all of its defenders near the line of scrimmage and no safety covering the middle of the field. He made a check with Kearse, who also noticed the coverage. Kearse's job was simply to beat cornerback Tramon Williams to the inside, keep position to the post and wait for Wilson's pass to arrive.

"I've seen him make so many plays before. When you see a guy that makes so many plays in practice, so many plays throughout big-time games, NFC championship game last year ... Doug Baldwin, too, you just continue to trust those guys," Wilson said. "They show me every day in practice and so when somebody messes up or I mess up or don't throw the ball right, whatever happens, I'm just going to keep coming back to them.

"I said, 'Hey, we're going to win this game. I'm going to keep coming back to you and we're going to find a way to win the game.'"

Two of the four interceptions that were intended for Kearse were Wilson's fault. He underthrew Kearse on a deep pass into double coverage early in the second quarter and later was short with a throw to the front corner of the end zone. Seattle coach Pete Carroll said he believed Wilson misjudged the wind on both of the underthrown passes.

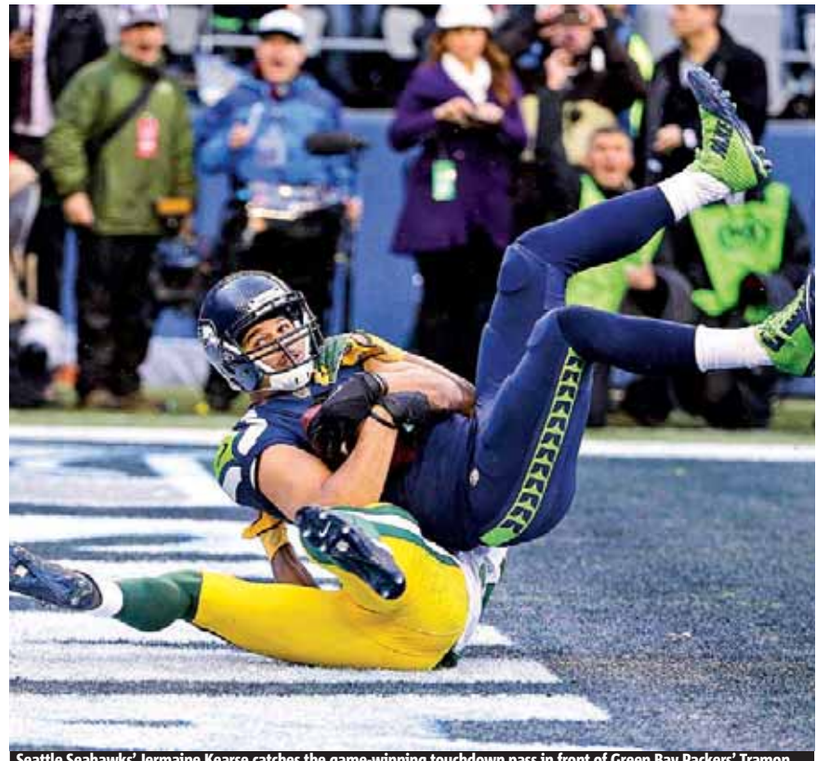
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Arrest

Former Seattle Seahawks tight end Jerramy Stevens, the husband of U.S. goalkeeper Hope Solo, has been arrested in southern California on suspicion of driving under the influence.

The Manhattan Beach Police Department says the former NFL player was stopped at about 1:30 a.m. Monday for driving without his vehicle's headlights turned on. Officer Stephanie Martin says Solo was in the car but was not arrested or detained.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Seattle Seahawks' Jermaine Kearse catches the game-winning touchdown pass in front of Green Bay Packers' Tramon Williams Sunday in Seattle. The Seahawks won 28-22 to advance to Super Bowl XLIX. DAVID J. PHILLIP/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Women's World Cup tickets range from $20-$165

Christine Sinclair and Team Canada will take on China on June 6 in their first match of the Women's World Cup. GETTY IMAGES FILE

From a preliminary-round doubleheader for as low as $20 to a $165 premium ticket for the final, there is no shortage of ticket options for the Women's World Cup.

While ticket packages went on sale in September, organizers released Tuesday the pricing structure for individual tickets in six Canadian cities this summer.

Individual tickets go on sale worldwide at noon ET Feb. 26, which is 100 days before the opening match of the 24-team tournament. Visa holders can take advantage of a pre-sale starting Feb. 6.

Tickets will be available on the Internet (see www.FIFA.com/Canada2015 for more information) or via phone.

The 52-match tournament runs June 6 to July 5 in Moncton, Montreal, Ottawa, Winnipeg, Edmonton and Vancouver.

The preliminary-round features 15 doubleheaders and six single matches. The knockout rounds consists of 16 individual matches.

Ticket prices vary. The cost for the Canada-China opening game June 6 at Edmonton's Commonwealth Stadium is $50, $80, $95 or $115 but that also includes a match between New Zealand and the Netherlands.

Contrast that with a preliminary-round doubleheader in Ottawa, where the range is $20.15 to $80.

"It's an inclusive sport, accessible sport and we wanted to make sure we translate that into our ticket sales program," said Peter Montopoli, general secretary of Canada Soccer, which serves as the tournament's national organizing committee.

The full range of tickets for the final at Vancouver's BC Place Stadium is $50, $85, $125 and $165. THE CANADIAN PRESS

By the numbers

400K

More than 400,000 tournament tickets have already been sold as part of packages. Organizers' attendance target for the tournament is 1.5 million.

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Retail offers not combinable with any CPA/GPC or Daily Rental incentives, the Commercial Upfit Program or the Commercial Fleet Incentive Program (CFIP).‡‡ Until February 2, 2015, receive $300/ $750/ $1,000/ $1,250/$2,000/ $2,500/ $2,750/$4,000/ $5,000/ $5,500/ $6,000/ $6,250/ $6,750/ $7,000/ $7,500/ $8,000/ $8,500/ $9,000/ $10,000/ $11,250/ $12,250 in Year End Clearout Cash (Delivery Allowances) with the purchase or lease of a new 2015 Fusion (excluding Hybrid)/ 2014 Focus BEV and 2015 Explorer/ F-150 Regular Cab XL 4x2/ Value Leader/ 2014 Focus (excluding Electric, ST, RS, Titanium)/ 2014 Escape S 2.5L FWD/ 2014 Escape S 1.6L EcoBoost FWD/ 2014 Escape S 2.0L EcoBoost FWD/ 2014 Escape S 2.5L FWD/ 2014 Escape SE 1.6L EcoBoost FWD/ 2014 Escape SE 2.0L EcoBoost FWD/ 2014 Escape SE 2.5L FWD/ 2014 Escape SE 2.5L 4WD/ 2014 Escape SE 1.6L EcoBoost 4WD/ 2014 Escape SE 2.0L EcoBoost 4WD/ 2014 Escape SE Sport 2.0L EcoBoost 4WD/ 2014 Escape SE Sport 2.5L 4WD/ 2014 Escape Titanium 1.6L EcoBoost 4WD/ 2014 Escape Titanium 2.0L EcoBoost 4WD/ 2014 Escape Titanium 2.5L 4WD/ 2014 Escape Titanium Hybrid/ 2014 Escape SE 1.6L EcoBoost/ 2014 Escape SE 2.0L EcoBoost/ 2014 Escape SE 2.5L/ 2014 Escape SE Sport 2.0L EcoBoost/ 2014 Escape SE Sport 2.5L/ 2014 Escape Titanium 1.6L EcoBoost/ 2014 Escape Titanium 2.0L EcoBoost/ 2014 Escape Titanium 2.5L/ 2014 Escape Titanium Hybrid/ 2014 Fiesta S/ 2014 Fiesta SE/ 2014 Fiesta Titanium/ 2014 Focus S Sedan/ 2014 Focus SE Sedan/ 2014 Focus Titanium Sedan/ 2014 Focus S/ 2014 Focus SE/ 2014 Focus Titanium/ 2014 Focus ST/ 2014 Focus Electric/ 2014 Fusion S/ 2014 Fusion SE/ 2014 Fusion Titanium/ 2014 Fusion Hybrid S/ 2014 Fusion Hybrid SE/ 2014 Fusion Hybrid Titanium/ 2014 Fusion Energi SE Luxury/ 2014 Fusion Energi Titanium/ 2014 Mustang V6/ 2014 Mustang V6 Premium/ 2014 Mustang GT/ 2014 Mustang GT Premium/ 2014 Mustang Boss 302/ 2014 Mustang Shelby GT500/ 2014 Transit Connect/ 2014 E-Series/ 2015 F-250 to F-450 (excluding Chassis Cabs) Gas engine/ 2014 CMAX, Taurus (excluding SE)/ 2014 Mustang V6 Premium/ 2014 Expedition and 2015 F-250 to F-450 (excluding Chassis Cabs) Diesel engine/ 2014 Mustang GT (excluding GT500)/ 2014 F-250 to F-450 (excluding Chassis Cabs) Diesel Engine/ 2014 F-150 SuperCab — all stripped chassis, cutaway body, F-150 Raptor and Medium Truck models excluded. Year-End Cash is not combinable with CPA, GPC, CFIP, Daily Rental Allowance and A/A/270/F-Plan programs. Delivery allowances are not combinable with any fleet consumer incentives.†Until February 02, 2015, lease a new 2014 F-150 Super Crew XLT 4x4 (300A Package) and get as low as 0% lease annual percentage rate (APR) financing for up to 24 months on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. Not all buyers will qualify for the lowest APR payment. Lease a vehicle with a value of $44,149 at 0% APR for up to 24 months with $2,575 down or equivalent trade-in. monthly payment is $288 (Comparison payments are for reference purposes only and are calculated as follows: the monthly payment is annualized (multiplied by 12) and then divided by the comparison period (26 weeks for bi-weekly). For example $288 X 12 / 26 weeks = $133). Taxes payable on full amount of lease financing price after Year-End Cash and Ford Credit Lease Cash deducted. Additional payments required for PPSA, registration, security deposit, NSF fees (where applicable), excess wear and tear, and late fees. Some conditions and mileage restrictions of 40,000km for 24 months apply. Excess kilometrage charges of 16cper km for F-Series, plus applicable taxes. Excess Kilometrage charges subject to change, see your local dealer for details. All prices are based on Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price. Purchase a new 2015 Fiesta S Sedan / 2015 Fiesta Titanium/ 2015 Fusion SE/2015 Fusion Titanium/ 2015 Escape S FWD with 2.5L engine / 2015 Escape Titanium for $16,239/$20,514/$25,099/$33,999/$24,499/$36,049 after Year-End Cash of $0/$0/$500/$500/$0/$0 and Winter Warm-Up bonus of $500/$500/$500/$500/$500/$500 is deducted. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price after total Year-End Cash and Winter Warm-Up bonus has been deducted. 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2015 Volkswagen GTI

- **Type.** Three- or five-door sport hatchback
- **Engine.** 2.0-litre turbocharged I4 (210 hp)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual, six-speed DSG automatic
- **Price.** $29,390 base, $34,985 as tested

Market position

• A performance model of the VW Golf lineup, just below ultimate Golf sportster, the Golf R.
• Pioneer of the Hot Hatch movement, which proves that a small, practical, and relatively inexpensive car can still offer excellent performance.
• Three trim variants: base 3-door, 3-door Autobahn, 5-door Autobahn.

Points

• 2015 is the first year for the 7th-generation Golf and GTI.
• Longer, lower and wider than the previous GTI. Also more aerodynamic, lighter, and more fuel-efficient.
• Engine is the latest version of VW's 2.0-litre direct-injection turbo, with 201 hp and 258 lb.-ft. of torque.
• Still using GTI's trademark and quirky tartan cloth seat material.

GTI keeps its plaid or tartan seats, but adds a flat-bottomed wheel.

Notable features

• 18-inch wheels, red brake calipers, flat-bottom sport steering wheel.
• 5.8-inch touch-screen that you don't need to touch (uses proximity sensors).
• Available premium audio system with eight speakers and a subwoofer, designed by Fender.
• Forward-collision warning system. Electronic stability control with sport mode.

Hot hatch still brings the heat

Review. Next-gen Golf makes a wonderful base for the new GTI. Bigger, lower, faster and more of everything you want

MIKE GOETZ
drive@metronews.ca

PHOTOS: MIKE GOETZ

Volkswagen's GTI might not have been the first hot hatch when it debuted in late 1970s. But it was the first to sell in big numbers, which helped popularize the concept of a fun, performance vehicle that was also practical and economical.

The 2015 GTI is the seventh generation of this hot hatch. It is still wearing plaid or tartan seat material, just like the original, and is still a wonderful idea — but now even more wonderfully executed.

For one thing, I think it's the best-looking GTI yet, with clean bodylines, and LED-infused headlamp cluster, and 18-inch alloy wheels, which look massive on such a compact vehicle.

As scripted by those big wheels and the aggressive, low-profile tires, the GTI bites into corners and accelerates out of them with precision and competence. And the new variable, electric steering system delivers just the right feel and quickness through a chunky steering wheel, which now has a flat bottom, like a race car.

I feared those low-profile tires were going to deliver a punishing ride, but the car is comfortable around town and very stable on the highway.

Although I haven't driven this new GTI on a track, those who have suggest it might be a bit soft for at-the-limit driving. But who cares, when it is so perfectly optimized for spirited street driving?

The car finally gets a selectable sport mode, so you can have fun further down the traction scale before the safety systems kick in to save you.

The new 2.0-litre turbo engine is also a high point, delivering 210 horses and 248 lb.-ft. of torque in a linear and fun manner. There is no turbo lag to speak of, and it revs easily and in a refined manner right to the top. Sounds good, too.

My tester had the six-speed manual transmission, and it shifted as smoothly as any I've tried in a while. A six-speed automatic is optional.

The new Golf platform is bigger and wider, so the GTI offers more room and comfort. The eight-way power seats are massive and supportive.

So what's not to like?

Well, prices are climbing. The new GTI starts at $27,995, and our top-shelf Autobahn trim, with the optional Technology Package, was sitting pretty at $33,590.

But if you're a fan of hot hatches, you will be drawn to the heat of the new GTI.

Compare

1 Ford Focus ST
Base price: $30,664
Hot-hatch version of the Focus offers 252 horses and is very racy.

2 Subaru WRX
Base price: $31,645
Sporty Sube offers 268 horses but no hatchback option.

3 Mini Cooper
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Connecting cars could solve traffic woes

Driving Force. Cars that can communicate with each other and roadway infrastructure could help ease traffic congestion

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

Vehicles that can talk to one another could reduce collisions, improve traffic flow and complement transit . CONTRIBUTED

What's going to be the future of mobility? Most people talk about self-driving cars and more public transit, but many experts believe increased connectivity between personal cars will be the driving force behind improving traffic flow.

"The amount of global infrastructure spent on transport, especially public transit, is very high," says Sarwant Singh, a senior partner with consulting and analyst firm Frost & Sullivan.

"The car will become more and more important as part of an integrated mobility solution."

Many cars are already connected, offering smartphone integration or even WiFi hotspots, but Singh believes they will eventually operate through cloud computing to harness the power of Big Data — an interconnected web of information from numerous sources.

In future, for example, you might be able to plan your entire trip through your smartphone, with all of the connections (including trains or airplanes) mapped out to the minute and on one ticket.

Your car's parking spot would even be reserved and paid. Wireless sensors in the parking garage would locate an empty spot and send the information to your car's navigation system, which would guide you directly to it once you arrive.

This connectivity will also link with car-sharing services, integrating them as part of public transit.

"The initial car-sharing model was A to B," Singh says. "Now we're seeing floating ones, where you can take or drop them anywhere. One of the expenses is parking and maintenance, so rather than put them in a specific place, we will see host parking, where they will be in people's driveways.

"There are also new car-sharing models, such as one in the U.S. where you take your own car to the airport, and someone else drives it while you're away."

By communicating with connected infrastructure, cars could gain access to low-emission zones or high-occupancy lanes put in place to optimize traffic flow, or even talk to other vehicles to know where they are and avoid crashes.

Although self-driving cars are under development, they're not expected for at least a decade or more, as they are dependent on traffic infrastructure and will need new legislation to allow their use.

Singh also speculates that drivers could use Internet aggregators to help them shop for cars, including the projected costs of fuel, maintenance and insurance.

The app could even direct the buyer to a dealer who has a specific used car that would be a better choice than a new one.

Connecting the dots

- It is estimated that 80 to 120 billion connected devices will be in use by 2020.
- Car-sharing grew by 50 per cent in 2013, and there are expected to be 26.2 million members worldwide within five years.
- Connected cars will be able to wirelessly download software updates, monitor recalls, and upload diagnostic information to the dealer.

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*Limited time finance purchase offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit based on a new and unregistered 2015 Tiguan 2.0T Trendline base model with 6-speed manual transmission with base MSRP of $26,600, including $1,610 freight and PDI, financed at 0% APR for 36 months equals 78 bi-weekly payments starting from $292. $2,850 down payment. Cost of borrowing is $0 for a total obligation of $25,550. PPSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. **$500 discount on MSRP available on cash purchase, finance or lease of new and unregistered 2015 Tiguan gas models (GLI models excluded). †**Bi-weekly equivalent lease payments of $108 on the Tiguan shown for example purposes only. Actual lease payments start at $238 and must be made monthly, not bi-weekly.** Price shown includes $500 bonus. Limited time lease offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit, based on a new and unregistered 2015 Tiguan 2.0T Trendline base model with 6-speed manual transmission and base MSRP of $26,600. $1,610 freight and PDI included. 48-month term at 1.9% APR. $3,395 down payment, $290 security deposit and first monthly payment in excess of payment credits (if applicable) due at lease inception. Total lease obligation: $14,819. 64,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.15/km for excess kilometres. PPSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. ††2015 Volkswagen Tiguan 2.0T 4MOTION® received a 5-star side-crash rating. Government star ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) New Car Assessment Program (safercar.gov). Crash performance was based on a U.S.-equipped vehicle. Some features on that model may be optional or not available in Canada. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers end January 31, 2015 and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Model shown: 2015 Tiguan 2.0T Highline R-Line, $40,190. Vehicle may not be exactly as shown. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Das Auto & Design" and "Tiguan" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2015 Volkswagen Canada.

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Shift: From hybrids, technology, new vehicles and the environment, to saving money at the pumps

Most cars may soon travel 100 km on less than one litre of fuel

Family cars of the next decade will be the most economical and cleanest-burning mainstream cars ever built, thanks to cutting-edge technologies already being developed and proven, says Autocar magazine. It outlined the top new technologies that will propel the average family car while cutting emissions and returning fuel-efficiency levels better than 0.8 L/100 km. They include advanced flywheels, electric turbochargers, intelligent aerodynamics, variable-ratio compression engines and enclosed wheel wells that return big reductions in aerodynamic drag. These advances come with a cost, warns editor-in-chief Chas Hallett. "Car makers will have to be careful (as) the advance of green technology could prove devastating for companies already surviving on a slim profit margin."

ALL STORIES AND PHOTOS FROM WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Cars like the VW Golf improve fuel efficiency through technological advances in the engine and aerodynamics.

Honda passes motorcycle milestone

Honda, the world's largest manufacturer of motorcycles, recently produced its 300-millionth bike. The 2015 Goldwing touring model is a machine so sophisticated and advanced that it's doubtful the company's founder, Soichiro Honda, could ever have imagined it when he founded the company in 1946. His first motorcycle, the single-cylinder Model D, or Dream, helped mobilize post-war Japan and establish a reputation for fuel-efficient transportation. Honda is best known today as a builder of cars, notes AutoWeek, "but the company simply wouldn't be where it is now if not for its truly groundbreaking two-wheeled offerings ... its motorcycles and scooters give tens of millions of individuals in developing nations the option of mobility every year."

The first Honda motorcycle was the Model D, or Dream, launched in 1946. Honda has since built more than 300 million motorbikes.

Shift points

- In announcing that its FCV hydrogen-fuel-cell vehicle will launch in Japan by March 2016, and then in the United States and Europe, Honda also joined the public-private partnership H2USA, whose goal is to cost-effectively deliver hydrogen across the United States.

Honda's FCV.

- Car2Go, the car-sharing company owned by Daimler Benz, recently passed the 1-million-member mark. Driving a fleet of 12,000 Smart cars in 60 cities and eight countries, Car2Go members have driven more than 218 million kilometres and taken more than 32 million trips, the company said.

FedEx fleet tests diesel, hydrogen range extenders in United States and France

Courier and car-rental companies have long been the leaders in testing the commercial benefits of alternatively powered and fuelled vehicles. Running huge global fleets, they constantly seek ways to cut emissions and fuel costs while improving efficiency and delivery speeds. Case in point is FedEx, which, among other initiatives, is testing a fleet of 20 delivery trucks with hydrogen-fuel-cell range extenders in the United States, with a similar project being undertaken in France. It's also testing electric delivery trucks that use a diesel turbine generator as an electric range extender. The diesel turbine takes the place of the more common gasoline engine found in other extended range plug-ins, such as the Chevrolet Volt.

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AUGMENTED REALITY

Stuck on 12 Across? Scan this image with your Metro News app for today's crossword and Sudoku answers. It's OK. No one's watching.

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→ See the full instructions on Metro's Voices page.

Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Don't be tempted to try something you're not familiar with. With Mercury beginning a retrograde phase mistakes are more likely than not.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You may find it hard getting through to a loved one today but it's no big deal so don't worry about it. Chances are they don't want to hear what you have to say. Don't press it.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
If your sixth sense tells you that someone is not being honest with you then, yes, you should be on your guard. But don't make accusations unless you can back them up with facts.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Something you had high hopes for seems to have come to nothing and you are disappointed. Don't dwell on it because there are other interesting things you could be doing.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
The planets urge you to keep a low profile today because if you call attention to yourself in your usual Leo way someone may decide to make a target of you.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you make a move without your partner's permission you may never hear the last of it. Whatever you want to do today be clear with your partner.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
A friend may want you to join them at a social event today but don't force yourself if you don't feel up to it. Cosmic activity in the wellbeing area of your chart means you need rest.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
It may be hard to stay calm if someone in a position of power gives you a hard time but chances are they are winding you up to see how you react.

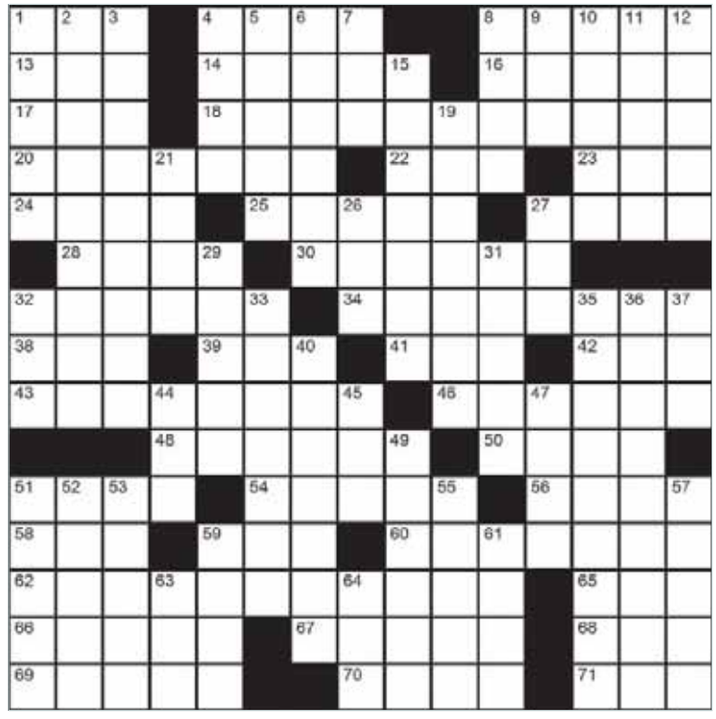
♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Someone may say you have no right to occupy a certain position but as far as you're concerned possession is nine-tenths of the law and you intend to stay where you are.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
As mind planet Mercury begins a retrograde phase, the more others try to convince you that something is clearly right the more likely it is to be wrong.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Sometimes it's OK to be suspicious and this is one of those occasions. If your sixth sense tells you to take care then be smart and listen to it.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Do you listen to someone who claims to know what is going on or do you listen to that voice inside your head that says they are talking trash? You know the answer to that one already.

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan



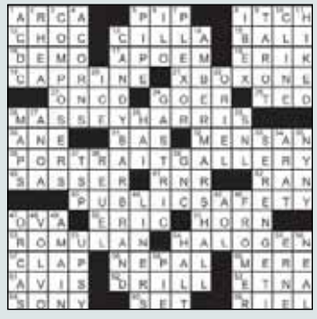
Across

1. Current 007 portrayer ...his initials-sharers
4. Clever ones
8. Ceremony spot
13. McDonald's founder's monogram
14. Major artery
16. __ Bridge ...It connects Canada (Fort Erie, Ontario) to the USA (Buffalo, New York)
17. "__ questions?"
18. Merchant sort
20. Heart-related
22. Tic-Tac-Toe loser
23. __ Islands, Indonesia
24. Aroma, variantly
25. Cupboard part
27. Formal org.
28. Long-range weapon, commonly
30. Largest private sector union in Canada
32. Lise Watier fare
34. Street-side stand
38. Singleton
39. Debit opps.
41. Mr. Pendleton of "Northwest Passage"
42. Mon. in Montreal
43. Dave __ Band
46. "You __ worry." (There, there...)
48. Friendly
50. Rhett's expletive
51. Advocate
54. Victorious: 2 wds.
56. Pronounces
58. 'Bad'-meaning prefix
59. Fad game disc
60. French actress Ms. Paradis
62. "Smalltown Boy" band: 2 wds.
65. Mr. Robbins
66. Particular puzzle
67. Without plasmas, e.g.: 2 wds.
68. AB city
69. "Things __ what they seem."
70. Get from _ __ _ (Advance slightly)
71. King: Spanish

Down

1. Harry Potter: __ Malfoy
2. Hockey, Moose, The Guess Who, Maple Syrup, Ottawa...
3. Intensely increase
4. "What __ _ thinking?"
5. Bits
6. East Central Alberta town
7. Bering, e.g.
8. Acme
9. Cake brand, with Sara
10. Spanish appetizers
11. Great tennis servers
12. Any "Corner Gas" episode now
15. __ harp (It sounds in the wind)
19. Moe __, Toronto-born jazz musician
21. "Will the __. __ able to see me?" ...wondered the patient
26. Blown-up pic
27. Alsatian artist Jean
29. A lot, in Spain
31. Selected
32. Blythe, to Gwyneth
33. Make some stuff for the meal ahead of time
35. Da Vinci or Rembrandt, for example: 2 wds.
36. City TV's neighbourly Canadian sketch comedy show
37. Mtn. blaster
40. Flute tune by #19-Down: "__' Shepherd Blues"
44. Blood-sucker, when doubled
45. Roosted
47. Alleviate
49. Pattie __-Reid, Chief Financial Commentator for CTV News
51. Space shadow
52. Less common
53. Spherical map
55. 'The Flying Finn' Mr. Nurmi
57. Sugar __, Canadian comedian
59. Attention-getter
61. US travel watchdog
63. Called-one's occupation
64. Fluffy scarf

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

1	3	9	4	8	2	7	5	6
8	6	5	1	9	7	3	2	4
2	4	7	6	3	5	8	1	9
7	5	2	8	4	9	1	6	3
4	9	6	7	1	3	2	8	5
3	8	1	2	5	6	9	4	7
9	1	4	3	6	8	5	7	2
6	2	3	5	7	1	4	9	8
5	7	8	9	2	4	6	3	1

Today's Sudoku

		9		5		7		
			3		6			
5				8				9
	9						3	
3		1		7		6		5
	7						4	
2				3				6
			4		8			
		4		1		2		

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